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THE TIMES

No. 65,122 SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26 1994

Report attacks party's sacred cow

Blair backs market with new Clause 4

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY Blair is calling on Labour to commit itself to the market economy in its new statement of party aims and values drawn up to replace Clause Four.

In a document to be considered by the party's national executive next week, the Labour leader gives further proof of his determination to change Labour for good by making plain his desire to move it away from old-style public ownership to tighter regulation of the privatised former state sector.

Mr Blair's consultation document speaks of the "weaknesses of the monolithic state corporations that have been typical of national industries in the past". It is a clear signal that most of the big industries privatised by the Tories since 1979 would not be renationalised under a future Labour government. Instead, Mr Blair would rely on tougher regulation to make them more responsive to consumers.

The Times has obtained a draft of the report understood to be close to the final version that was being sent to NEC members over the weekend. It emphasises the continuing role of public ownership, with health and education given as examples of services that must remain in the public sector, but it adds that "it does not follow that common ownership is our reflex answer to all market failures."

The document comes in the wake of Mr Blair's pledge at the Labour conference to ditch Clause Four, the party's commitment to the "common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange". Mr Blair's replacement proposals are a further illustration of his determination to slay the party's sacred cows.

The Left seems certain to be upset by the replacement of Clause Four with a statement commiting the party so firmly to a competitive market economy. It will also be uneasy at what appears to be a clear indication of Mr Blair's refusal to contemplate penal taxation rates against the rich. The document speaks of Labour's commitment to equality of opportunity rather than "absolute arithmetic equality".

Mr Blair's 17-page paper was drawn up with John Prescott, his deputy. During the past few days it has been amended after consultations with senior shadow Cabinet members including Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, Robin Cook, the shadow Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, the shadow Home Secretary, and David Blunkett, the shadow Education Secretary, as well as senior union leaders. They are understood to include John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, and Bill Morris, general secretary of the transport workers' union. Tom Sawyer, the new party general secretary, has been closely involved in the discussions.

The original Clause Four was drawn up in 1918 as a reaction against the effects of 19th-century free market capitalism; the new document says the clause is not relevant to today's circumstances.

Mr Blair's conclusion is that Clause Four does not define Labour in a manner appropriate to the 1990s and beyond, that its view of the economy is not satisfactory for the modern world and that its definition of what a modern Labour Party stands for is not sufficiently comprehensive.

After a period of consultation in the party, the aims will be distilled into a relatively short statement and approved, possibly at a special party conference. The precise method of completing the consultative process will be agreed by the NEC next week.

It is clear that Mr Blair intends the new Clause Four to be a much wider statement of party values. He points out that the existing clause makes no mention of social justice, democracy or solidarity, values "central to the purpose and identity of the party".

He calls for an assault on "unaccountable concentrations of wealth and power" and for reforms to attack privilege wherever it exists.

Market promise ..... Page 8
Pollution demand ..... Page 8
Leading article ..... Page 21

MARTIN BEDDALL



Madlyn Ray-Jones, left, and Helen Yaffe yesterday outside the pub in north London, where they were strip searched during a raid by police

WEEKEND MONEY



MORTGAGES
Anne Ashworth on whether to pay off early

BUILDING SOCIETIES
How members can have a say

Plus: the best unit trust and share service

Pages 31-39

Girls win £21,000 for strip search

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

TWO teenage girls were awarded £21,000 damages by the Metropolitan Police yesterday after a "humiliating" strip search in a pub lavatory during a drugs raid.

The payment could trigger more claims from others among the 88 people searched at the public house in Kentish Town, north London.

Helen Yaffe and Madlyn Ray-Jones, both 17, said that they were ordered to strip to their underwear in the ladies' at their local public house. They had sued the Metropolitan Police for false imprisonment, assault and unlawful inducement to undress.

The police agreed to pay Miss Yaffe £9,000 and Miss Ray-Jones £12,000 compensation plus their legal costs. They also received an apology from Sir Paul Condon, Metropolitan Police Commissioner. Madlyn's award was bigger because she was deemed to have suffered greater trauma.

Kenneth Zucker, QC, a county court judge was told that the girls were 15 and had gone to the Junction Tavern in November 1992. At 10pm police with a warrant to search everybody arrived.

The landlord said a drugs raid was taking place and that customers should leave. The girls were stopped and taken to the ladies' lavatory by two women officers where they were strip searched. No drugs were found.

A statement to the court said that the girls were subject to "distressing and humiliating" strip searches that were very intrusive. Jane Deighton, solicitor for both girls, said: "They maintain that they were not told why they were being searched or the extent of the proposed search. The officers told them incorrectly that the police were searching everyone in the pub."

Outside the court Miss Ray-Jones said: "It was horrible. There were other people being searched. I was not in a cubicle and was forced into a tiny corner near the sinks. I felt really embarrassed and didn't want to tell anyone. I am really pleased that we have received an apology."

College head 'plotted' death

An eminent classicist said that he had contemplated driving an Oxford colleague to his death for the good of their college. The historian Trevor Aston died after receiving a letter from Sir Kenneth Dover threatening to end his post ..... Page 3

Times appeal

Victims of domestic fires can call on Red Cross volunteers who help to clear up and offer tea, sympathy and advice. How readers can aid this work ..... Page 12

Nato launches airstrike to save Bihac

NATO was last night reported to have launched an airstrike in Bosnia in a last-ditch attempt to save the embattled Muslim town of Bihac from advancing Serb forces. No details were immediately available of the nature or location of the target.

Yesterday the UN confirmed that at least six heavy artillery shells landed in the centre of Bihac at 4pm. Shortly after the shelling, the UN requested the airstrike.

Akashi threat, page 13

Hurd raises hope of EU referendum

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

DOUGLAS Hurd yesterday opened up the prospect of a referendum on Britain's future in Europe as ministers sought ways to mend divisions that have again plunged the Government into crisis.

In a shift of stance, the Foreign Secretary softened the Government's previous opposition to referendums in a move that may placate some Tory Euro-rebels. It was also aimed at preventing Tony Blair stealing a march on the Conservatives by promising a referendum in the next Labour election manifesto.

Mr Hurd intervened as the Government prepared for its crucial Monday debate on the European Finance Bill, and the rebels faced warnings in their constituencies against casting a vote that could bring the Government down.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, last night repeated the threat of a certain election if the Government loses. He said it was time "for the entire Conservative Party to show unity and discipline."

The Government seems certain to win because most Tory MPs now appear to accept that the threat is real. But the Government majority is likely to be reduced from its present 14. The rebels will be deprived of the party whip, and face the risk of deselection by their local constituencies.

Some 18 MPs have put their names to the rebel amendment to the Bill. That does not mean they will vote against the Government, but the figure is an indication of their level of support.

Mr Hurd said on BBC radio that although the Government was "temperamentally opposed" to referendums it would be up to Parliament "to decide whether or not there are referendums and if so on what subject".

Tory timetable, page 2

Societies merger will pay windfall

BY ANNE ASHWORTH AND ROBERT MILLER

TWO in every five households stand in line for a windfall payment after confirmation that two of Britain's largest building societies are planning a merger, leading to a £9 billion stock market flotation.

The ten million savers and borrowers of the two societies, the Halifax and the Leeds Permanent, are being promised free shares in the issue which will be larger than any privatisation to date.

The Halifax, Britain's largest society, has six million savers and 1.9 million mortgage borrowers. The Leeds, ranked at number five, has two million savers and 500,000 borrowers. The new organisation will be known as the Halifax.

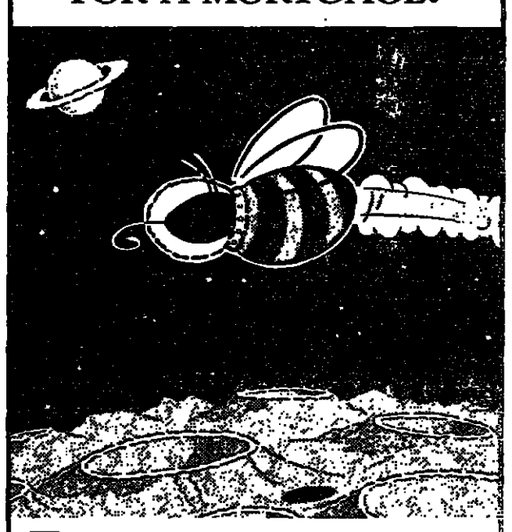
In 1989, more than five million customers and employees received 100 free shares valued at 130p each when the Abbey National converted from a building society into a public company and bank. The Halifax flotation could provide some customers with up to £13,500 per account, depending on the balance on their accounts. But tens of thousands have been excluded from the payout on a legal technicality, leading to vociferous opposition.

The unions have expressed concern that the deal will lead to job cuts in spite of reassurances from both societies. Ged Nichols, general secretary of the Independent Union of Halifax Staff, said: "We've got a guarantee that there will be no compulsory redundancies but we are not taking this at face value."

Alastair Darling, Labour's City spokesman, said last night that he had written to Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, asking him to examine the competition implications of the proposed merger.

End of societies, page 25
Matchmaker, page 27

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Lord James: choice of title or party loyalty

Peer's death may cut vital Tory Euro vote

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE death of the tenth Earl of Selkirk is threatening unforeseen consequences for John Major's government.

The 88-year-old peer's heir, his nephew, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Conservative MP for Edinburgh West and a minister in the Scottish Office, is likely to be barred from voting in Monday's crucial European finance debate because he is deemed to have been elevated to the House of Lords on the Earl's death. The MP is now facing the difficult decision of choosing between the Earldom and his loyalty to the Prime Minister.

If Lord James decides to claim the title, the government would face a by-election in Scotland because, as a peer, Lord James would not be able to sit in the House of Commons. He is allowed to sit in the Commons at present because it is a courtesy title.

Lord James' majority in the last general election was only 879. Even if he decides to renounce the title, he is unlikely to be able to do so in time for Monday's vote. An MP who succeeds to a title can disclaim it within a month. Under the 1963 Peerage Act, however, he is not allowed to vote in the House of Commons until he does so.

Lord James now has to decide to lodge a disclaimer with the Lord Chancellor's office after which the Clerk of the Crown issues a certificate to that effect. The title lies in abeyance for a generation but can be resumed by the heir of the person who disclaimed it.

A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor's office said that technically it would just be possible to disclaim the title in time, however Lord Douglas-Hamilton is likely to seek advice on the issue.

The issue has been further complicated by a confusion over whether Lord Douglas-Hamilton is indeed the heir to the Earl of Selkirk. There is a possibility that his cousin, Alasdair Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton, born in 1939 may have a claim. He is the eldest son of the Earl of Selkirk's younger brother Malcolm.

Obituary, page 23

Rebels believe vote on Monday could trigger Tory leadership contest

Plot to oust Major not solid enough for challenge

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

A LEADING organiser of the campaign to oust John Major next week admitted yesterday that he could so far count on only about two-thirds of the 34 names needed to trigger a contest.

But he told *The Times* that the rebel camp knew of far more than 34 MPs who wanted to precipitate a challenge but for various reasons could not afford to. The plotters are relying on the strong emotions certain to be generated by Monday night's vote on the European Finance Bill to tip the party over the edge into a contest that has become a real possibility since the Cabinet made the passage of the Bill a confidence issue.

The Government is certain to win on Monday but a number of Tory MPs look likely either to vote against the Government or abstain and thus deprive themselves of the party whip. A much bigger Euro-sceptic faction will bow to the strong-arm tactics of the Cabinet.

The anti-Major faction believes the anger, sorrow and passion provoked by the spectacle of some of the oldest hands in the party losing the whip, and of a large swath of MPs being forced to vote against their consciences, will lead to further antagonism towards the Prime Minister.

They calculate that events will move quickly and there is confidence that Norman Lamont would, if asked, be prepared to stand and that by the Wednesday lunchtime deadline a contest that will further weaken Mr Major's grip on power will be under way.

An entirely different scenario is envisaged by most Conservative MPs and ministers, and indeed looks the more plausible. The more likely outcome must be that Mr Major will be boosted by a vote on Monday night that may in the short-term vindicate his high-risk strategy. Rebels will pretend that they have been mollified by promises to tackle EU fraud or signals on a referendum on 1996, and will give up the fight.

The victory will boost rather than weaken Tory morale. Almost immediately thoughts will turn to Tuesday's Budget which, like all its recent predecessors, will receive an initial euphoric welcome.

Wednesday lunchtime will have arrived and gone before anyone has noticed. As a bonus anyone defying the whip on Monday will not be entitled to be counted on any list of MPs calling for a contest, making the 34-name target more difficult to achieve.

In the eyes of many MPs, Kenneth Clarke would be the beneficiary if Mr Major were to fall, but he is strongly opposed on the Right. *The Times* has learnt that it was the Chancellor, as well as Douglas Hurd, who first proposed to the Cabinet that Monday's vote should be a confidence issue.

Mr Clarke may be favourite to take over and that it is why some on the Right are reluctant to provoke a contest.

Michael Portillo will be watching events carefully. Some of his friends believe he should have gambled this week and resigned from the Cabinet. They believe he could honourably have done so and might have benefited in the leadership contest that would inevitably have ensued.

But Mr Portillo probably feels he has no need to rush. His closest friends believe he will come through in the next leadership contest but one, or that he might have a better chance if the context came next year.

They feel that if Mr Major were to go soon Michael Heseltine could still get the job he has always sought. The idea of a Heseltine-Portillo ticket was being pushed yesterday as MPs left for their constituencies. Those on the Left of the party who are known to favour a contest are divided between Mr Heseltine and Mr Clarke. The Board of Trade President, who won favour on the Right with his fight for Post Office privatisation, is still a player, although he cannot have many chances left.

Mr Lamont is an avid spectator. His burning resentment at the way Mr Major removed him from office 18 months ago is still gnawing away. He would like to be centre-stage again.

Mr Major will spend the weekend in his constituency. He is reported to have no regrets about his decision to go for the nuclear option on Europe.

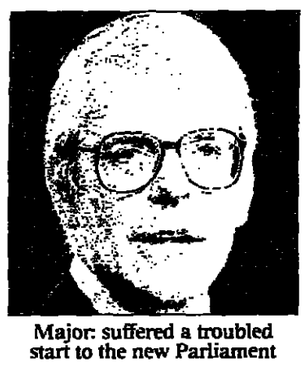
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GAETAN COTTON



Jeremy Hanley, the Conservative chairman, with Graham Postles, his party's candidate in next month's Dudley West by-election, in the constituency yesterday. Mr Hanley conceded that the party faced an "uphill struggle" to hold on

Fourteen days that have shaken the Conservatives



Major: suffered a troubled start to the new Parliament

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ONLY ten days after the Queen's Speech, MPs are reflecting on a fortnight of turmoil rarely matched at the start of a new Parliament. Rifts inside the Tory party over Europe have been deepened by a series of other upsets that have left Conservatives in disarray.

The timetable of trauma reads:

Thursday, November 10: a Cabinet meeting to agree the Queen's Speech is told by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, that next Monday's vote on increased contributions to the European Union should be made a confidence issue.

Friday, November 11: Mr Hurd is accused of acting unlawfully in authorising £234 million in aid towards the Pergau dam project.

Sunday, November 13: six senior ministers agree that the vote should be treated as a confidence matter.

Tuesday, November 15: Sir Marcus Fox, chairman of the Conservative backbench 1922 committee, tells Conservative MPs that the European Budget vote would be a confidence issue.

Sarah Hogg, the Prime Minister's closest adviser, and Jonathan Hill, his political secretary, announce that they are leaving Downing Street.

Wednesday, November 16: John Major announces that defeat over the European Budget Bill will bring about a general election.

Monday November 21: a leaked report written by John Maples, a Tory party deputy chairman, indicated the depth of former Conservative voters' disillusionment.

Tuesday, November 22: Sir Nicholas Bonsor announces that he is to challenge Sir Marcus Fox for the chairmanship of the 1922 committee.

Wednesday, November 23, 3.30pm: Treasury releases figures showing Britain will pay £732 million more into European budget than thought.

5pm: Mr Clarke tells journalists that all Cabinet ministers agreed to the vote being a confidence issue.

9pm: Patrick Nicholls resigns as a Conservative party vice-chairman after writing an article lambasting Germany and France. First reports emerge that three right-wing Cabinet ministers were reluctant to back confidence tactics.

Thursday, November 24, 1pm: Bill Walker, a backbench MP, claims publicly that the number of MPs supporting a leadership challenge has reached the necessary 34.

3.15pm: Christoper Gill MP says he would rather lose the Tory whip than support the European budget Bill.

MPs reject beer and tobacco cuts

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

KENNETH Clarke was advised by MPs yesterday not to cut tax on beer and tobacco in next week's Budget in spite of claims that high duty is jeopardising thousands of jobs.

A Commons report rejected calls by the brewing and tobacco industries for a reduction in taxes to curb rises in the number of people importing wine, beer and cigarettes from the Continent. Brewers and cigarette manufacturers claim that their trade has been severely damaged by last year's European Union law changes that abolished specific limits on the volume of imported alcohol and tobacco.

The cross-party Treasury and Civil Service Committee decided that, on health grounds, "no responsible Government" could contemplate a large reduction in alcohol tax. The committee warned Mr Clarke against "significant widening" of the level of duty between Britain and its continental neighbours. Calls for tax cuts on tobacco were similarly dismissed on health grounds. The report said that evidence "that price increases lead to parallel reductions in consumption is so overwhelming that tax reductions for the principal tobacco products could not be seriously contemplated".

The report was rushed out to advise Mr Clarke on whether tax reductions on alcohol and tobacco were necessary to help British companies. The MPs said there was no evidence that the Treasury could recoup income lost through a reduction in tax by increased sales. Customs officials estimate that relaxing cross-border controls last year has cost the Treasury £200 million on reduced British sales.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Harrods boss cleared of blackmail attempt

The threat of a police investigation into Mohamed Al Fayed over allegations that he attempted to blackmail the Government was lifted yesterday by the Crown Prosecution Service.

Two months after the Prime Minister called in the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Harrods chairman, a central figure in the Coomons "cash for questions" row, has been cleared of any wrongdoing. Further police investigations were not warranted, the CPS said.

The allegations were based on a meeting between John Major and an intermediary, thought to be Brian Hitchen, the editor of the *Sunday Express*. The CPS said that the meeting did not disclose "the commission of any criminal offence by Mr Al Fayed". Mr Al Fayed said he was "totally vindicated" by the decision. Downing Street refused to offer him an apology.

Professor to apologise

Professor Geoffrey Chamberlain, President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, is to write to all 9,800 members to apologise for a faked scientific report published in a journal he edited. He is expected to say in the letter that he was guilty of a "fault of omission" in failing to check the report about the saving of an ectopic pregnancy before publishing it. The report was written by Malcolm Pearce, consultant obstetrician at St George's Hospital, Tooting, south London.

Palumbo accord near

Lord Palumbo and his two eldest children are believed to be close to settling their dispute over a £64 million family trust. James Palumbo and his sister Annabella took their father, the former Arts Council chairman, to the High Court, accusing him of squandering their inheritance and trying to remove him as a trustee. After six days the case is thought to be almost settled. A statement is likely next week.

Priestess found guilty

A priestess who led an exorcism in which a woman was battered to death in Ilford, east London, was convicted of manslaughter at the Old Bailey. Mona Rai, 47, a Sunni Muslim, was found guilty of killing Farida Patel, 22, who was punched and jumped upon to try to rid her of evil spirits. Two other people, including the victim's brother Hafiz, were convicted of manslaughter on Thursday.

Council staff suspended

Three senior officers from Surrey County Council have been suspended amid allegations of financial irregularities, the council confirmed yesterday. Surrey Police are conducting an investigation into the employees, who worked for a highways contracting organisation. One was arrested last week and two were arrested and released on police bail in September. None has been charged.

Young drivers warned

The Government warned reckless young motorists yesterday that they could be forced to resit their driving tests if they break the law within two years of passing. Steven Norris, the transport minister for road safety, said that new drivers who committed serious offences on the roads would lose their licences and be "hit where it hurts most — in their egos".

Black writers' award



The actress Marsha Hunt, right, and Karis Jagger, her daughter by Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stone, are launching a literary award for unpublished British-born black novelists. The award of £32,000 over four years is being sponsored by Saga, the travel, publishing and financial services group. The winner, to be chosen next July, will be guaranteed publication by Virago.

Implant claim warning

Women who have had problems with silicone breast implants should register their claims to a £2.7 billion compensation fund before the December 1 deadline, the Law Society said yesterday. Those who fail will lose the right to pursue claims in America. Only about 5,000 out of an estimated 30,000-50,000 British women believed to be eligible have made inquiries about the fund.

The Red Cross

The British Red Cross has asked us to make clear that it was the Crown Prosecution Service which brought proceedings against a man accused of misuse of the Red Cross emblem (report, November 24) and not the charity itself, none of whose funds were used in connection with the case.

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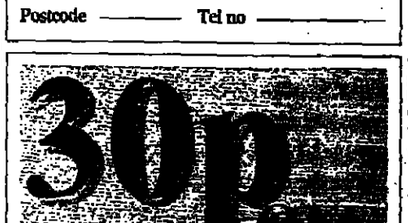
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Classicist blames suicide on divorce

Oxford president plotted don's death for good of college

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

ONE of Britain's most eminent classicists confirmed yesterday that he had contemplated driving an Oxford colleague to his death for the good of their college.

The historian Trevor Aston was found dead in his rooms at Corpus Christi College in October 1985 shortly after receiving a letter from Sir Kenneth Dover threatening to end his college post.

Sir Kenneth, a former president of the college, says in his autobiography that at one stage he saw killing Mr Aston, whose alcoholism and erratic behaviour had embarrassed dons, as the best move for the good of the college.

In a chapter devoted to the death of Mr Aston, Sir Kenneth writes: "It was clear to me by now that Trevor and the college must somehow be separated, and my problem was one which I feel compelled to define with brutal candour: how to kill him without getting into trouble." He consulted a lawyer only to discover that the law "does not make things easy for those who plan to cause the death of others". Mr Aston died just days after Sir Kenneth had told him he was to lose his job despite a warning from the historian's psychiatrist that suicide was a possibility. Sir Kenneth says he gave priority to what was best for the college, "even if that meant his death".

Sir Kenneth, 74, who has retired and is now living in St Andrews, Fife, said yesterday: "If it had been entirely possible to cause his death without my getting into trouble, I would have done, as I made clear in the book. The reason I did not, of course, is that it couldn't be done.

"I do not consider, in fact, that my last conversation with him actually caused his death because after that he received notification of divorce proceedings. Plainly, it was this which pushed him over the edge."

In the book, *Marginal Comment*, which was rejected by Oxford University Press, Sir Kenneth explains that although Mr Aston had become an embarrassment to the college, when his tenure came up for renewal in 1982 a group of dons concluded that nothing could be done about him.

By September 1985 Sir Kenneth had decided: "We had to get rid of the man. We couldn't have him lurching around the front quad after the undergraduates had come up or using violent language in the hearing of guests or visitors, or demonstrating to college employees that Fellows could get away with bad behaviour which could not be tolerated by people with less secure jobs."

Mr Aston, founder of the historical journal *Past and Present* and editor of the *History of Oxford University*, had spoken of suicide when his second marriage began to fail. Sir Kenneth wondered what he would do if the historian telephoned to say he had taken an overdose. "I was warned that a deliberate act of omission could lead to a charge of murder."

Despite doubting his ability to remove Aston's fellowship, Sir Kenneth notified him of this intention in a letter, which he describes as "a dagger in my hand".

Sir Kenneth, who was the inspiration for the BBC series *The Greeks*, equates his treatment of Mr Aston to the ancient Greek practice of putting the community before an individual. "I had no qualms of causing the death of a Fellow from whose non-existence the college would benefit."

Sir Kenneth, a former president of the British Academy and a highly controversial figure during his career, was president of Corpus Christi for ten years from 1976. He said yesterday that he had no regrets about his comments, describing it as "an experimental autobiography".



Trevor Aston, right, was found dead days after Sir Kenneth Dover told him that he would lose his post



PHOTOGRAPHS: JAMES CHEADLE

Rival fruit and flower roadside stalls run by Frances Cooper, below left, and Mabel Cooper have divided a village family for 26 years





Family split by war of roses

By Andrew Pierce and Catherine Milton

A JUDGE yesterday stepped into a 26-year war between two stallholders in a New Forest village. The rivalry between Mabel and Frances Cooper, who are related and next-door neighbours, has divided a family and cost thousands of pounds in legal fees.

The seeds of the discontent were sown in 1968 when Mabel Cooper, 63, set up a fruit and flowers stall outside her 1950s bungalow in Cadnam, Hampshire. Family relations broke down in 1972 when Frances Cooper, 49, set up a rival stall outside her bungalow 20 feet away.

The women have not spoken to each other for 26 years. Mabel's husband Maurice and his nephew Albert, who is married to Frances, also broke off all communication and Mabel's eight children do not speak to Frances's three.

For 20 years New Forest District Council has been serving enforcement notices on Mabel Cooper, who never obtained planning permission for her business.

Yesterday Judge Chalkley issued an injunction at Southampton County Court ordering her to comply with the council's latest edict to cease trading. She said afterwards: "I will not surrender. I will appeal all the way to the House of Lords if I have to. This is my life. I have spent £10,000 defending my business and my reputation."

Frances Cooper, who had obtained planning permission in 1979 to run a shop within her home, was ordered to move her trading inside.

Officer who trod on recruit loses base

By Michael Horsnell



A ROYAL Navy lieutenant commander who deliberately stood on the bare foot of a trainee officer during a shore base inspection to teach him a lesson was dismissed from his ship and severely reprimanded yesterday.

A court martial at Portsmouth was told that Lt Cmndr Stephen Kerslake, 43, "an officer of great experience and compassion," trod on Benjamin Holland's left foot with his heel when he inspected an accommodation block at HMS Collingwood. Artificer Holland, 20, was not wearing shoes and the officer leant forward and squashed the foot as he stood to attention to explain the dangers of not wearing footwear at sea.

The officer, duty commanding officer for Collingwood, admitted assault at a two-hour hearing into the incident at the base on October 19.

Captain Kenneth Day, president of the court martial panel, said: "The Royal Navy expects very high standards in training and you fell well short of those expected of an officer in your position."

Hunt cruelty tales were vengeful, libel trial is told

By A Staff Reporter

A HUNTSMAN sacked after slapping the face of the huntmaster took revenge by telling MPs lies about cruelty to foxes, a libel trial was told yesterday.

The High Court in Cardiff was told that Clifford Pellow, who was sacked from his post in charge of the hunt's kennel, had allegedly attacked Howard Jones for "gossiping" about his wife.

Subsequently Mr Pellow, 51, claimed at a House of Commons press conference that Mr Jones, joint master of the Tredegar Farmers Hunt in Gwent, knew foxes had been held captive before being released to the hounds. He also alleged at the conference, organised by the League Against Cruel Sports, that three times foxes were taken across fields in sacks and that once Mr Jones carried a fox to a hunt crammed in a milk churn. Mr Jones's son Ruscomb was said to have dragged a fox across fields by a string before leaving the animal tethered to a tree for the hounds to kill.

The accusations were "unfounded and untrue and made out of malice", Richard Griffiths, for the plaintiff, told the High Court. Mr Jones, 65, is claiming damages against Mr Pellow and the League Against Cruel Sports over the allegations made at the Commons in November 1991.

The court was told that the Masters' of Foxhounds Association laid down that foxes must be hunted in their wild and natural state and not be released from a sack or cage. Mr Griffiths said: "The allegations were that Mr Jones breached that rule on a number of occasions. The allegations were reported widely in the press. They did excessive harm to Mr Jones's reputation and people began to shun and avoid him."

Mr Griffiths said an inquiry by the Masters' of Foxhounds Association had cleared Mr Jones. Mr Pellow, from Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan, did not pursue a claim for unfair dismissal, he added.

Mr Jones, from Lower Machen, Gwent, said that after the dispute over Mr Pellow's wife the huntsman "rang up to say he would get me". The case continues.

Honeymoon survivors tell of bodies on beach

By Kathryn Knight

A YOUNG couple are to claim compensation from a holiday company after witnessing a series of macabre scenes that they say ruined their honeymoon.

John and Amanda Surtees, both 25, claim they watched as a man was thrown from an earth mover outside their hotel onto rocks below, and the next week saw police recover two dead people from the beach.

They had booked a £1,000 two-week honeymoon in the Tenerife resort Los Christianos to follow their wedding in Dunston, Tyne & Wear, earlier this month.

The couple said the incidents started on the first day. As they sat in the bar of their hotel, Mrs Surtees, a restaurant worker, said she noticed a young man lying on a pile of rubble outside. "I didn't know whether he was drunk or just ill," Mrs Surtees said. "I was about to ask someone when a JCB rolled up and picked him up in its digger.

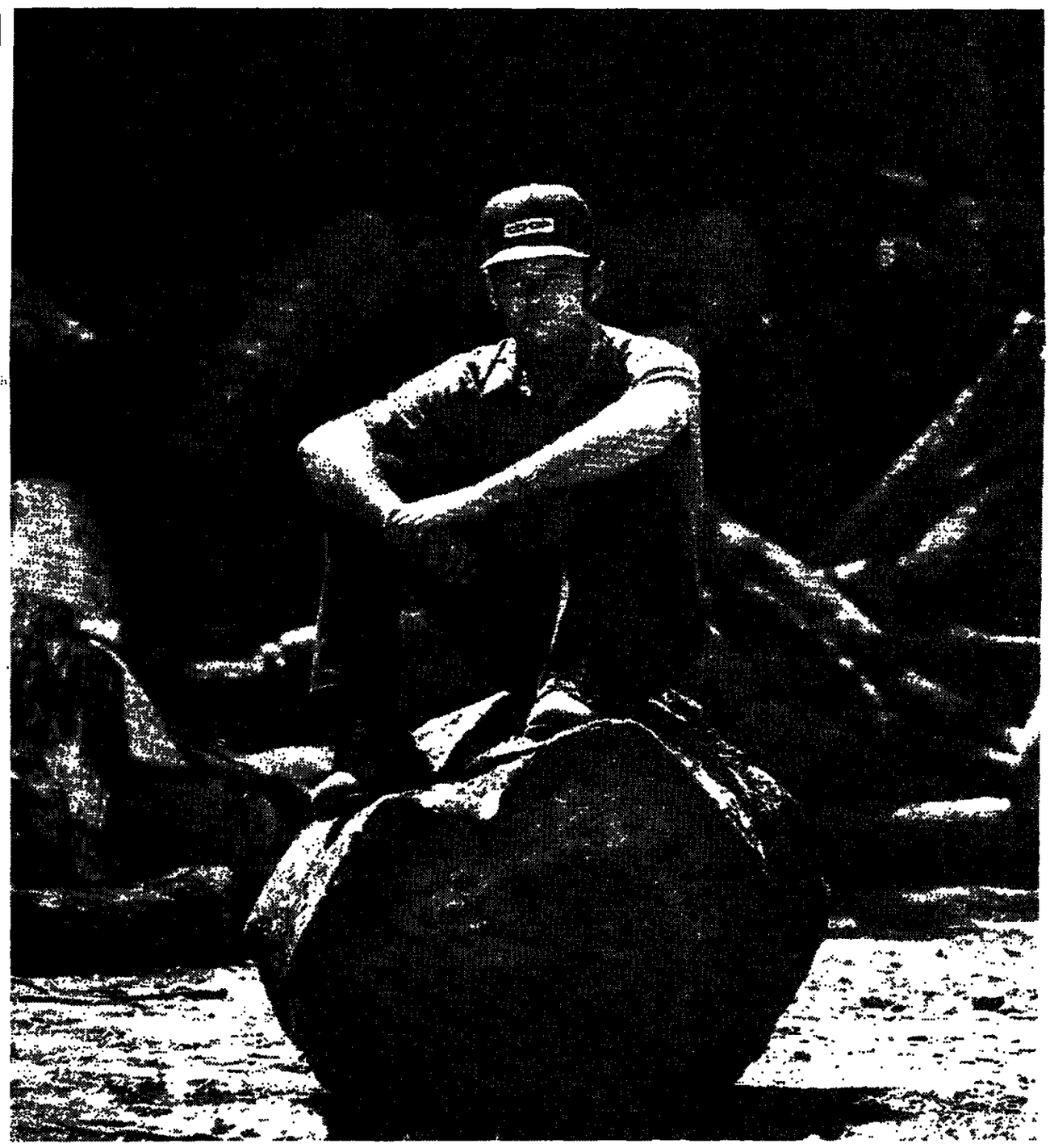
"The driver went a few yards and then dumped him out of the digger onto some rocks below. If he wasn't already dead he would be after that," she said.

The man was taken away in an ambulance and Mr and Mrs Surtees were unable to find out what happened to him.

In the second week the couple witnessed police recover two bodies. The first was hauled out of the sea as they sat on the beach. "It was a Spaniard whose throat had been cut," Mrs Surtees said. "We were just getting over that when the dismembered body of a Morrocan man was found at the other side of the beach in a suitcase. His limbs and head had been chopped off."

She added: "We both feel that we need another holiday to get over this one."

Mr and Mrs Surtees are putting in a claim for compensation with their tour operator, Air Tours. A spokesman said: "It was never our intention to have unhappy holidaymakers and if Mr Surtees would contact our customer services department they will liaise directly with him."



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Footballer investigated over cocaine confession

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

THE Football Association is likely to charge Paul Merson, the Arsenal and England forward, with bringing the game into disrepute if he was paid for admitting in a newspaper that he had regularly taken cocaine.

Merson, 26, said that he started taking cocaine last January after losing his starting place in the Arsenal team. He also became depressed over large gambling debts. "I must have gone through £2,000," Merson said. "And that was just what I spent. There must have been much more coke I was given by people which I didn't pay for."

With the game already damaged by allegations that Bruce Grobbelaar, the Southampton and Zimbabawe goalkeeper, was paid to throw matches, the FA yesterday began investigating the revelations concerning Merson.

Hertfordshire Police will also investigate reports that drug-taking took place in pub lavatories to see whether any offences have been committed.

This is the first time a leading English player has admitted to taking cocaine, which is banned as a performance-enhancing substance by the International Olympic Committee. In 1991, Diego Maradona, the Argentinian team captain, was suspended for 15 months for cocaine abuse.

Merson told the Daily Mirror that he had been given a week by Arsenal to sort out his problem. He will not play for the team during that time. Merson, who has won 14 England caps, is believed to be abroad and will be interviewed by the FA on his return.

Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, said yesterday that the priority was on the rehabilitation of the player. Mr Kelly said: "Our concern is for the player and his family and for the interests of the club and the game." Mr Kelly said he would not expect Merson to play again until the investigation was completed.

Arsenal said yesterday that the player had admitted that he had "a serious personal problem. Although we do not condone what Paul has done, we intend to give him all the support that we can in order to help him through this difficult period." Merson was dropped from the team earlier this month after a series of listless performances.

Arsenal meet Manchester United in the Premier League at Highbury today. George Graham, the manager, said: "I think I have proved that I can cope with setbacks as well as success as a manager and I have found I learn more things about myself when there are setbacks to face.

"However, I am not qualified to deal with certain problems and must make my first priority preparing the team for important matches. We have got to get on with probably the biggest game of the season in front of a capacity crowd, most of whom will want to see us win."

Drug-testing was introduced at Football League and FA Cup matches in 1978 but the clubs and players had to consent to giving samples. It became mandatory in 1992, since when two players have been found positive out of 180 samples. Both were for stimulants present in common cold cures.

However, an increasing number of young professional players are using drugs to relax from the pressures of the modern game. In the ten years up to 1993, the Professional Footballers' Association was asked to help five youngsters with drug problems. Last season, nine of the 1,300 PFA members aged between 16 and 18 were given assistance.

Gordon Taylor, the PFA chief executive, said yesterday that the number of random tests at training grounds was being increased. Mr Taylor said that in ten days' time the PFA would be launching three 15-minute videos warning against drug abuse. Among the role models talking about the dangers of taking prohibited substances is the Arsenal manager.



Merson: spent £2,000 on buying cocaine

Football, pages 47 and 48

Old stager retires, hoping to hand down a noble seaside tradition

Punch and Judy man says show must go on

BY EMMA WILKINS

SIMON BURT



Albert Shilcock, 81, says that in 50 years he has never seen his puppets' violence make children cry

AFTER 50 years of hitting wives, hangmen and crocodiles, one of Britain's oldest Punch and Judy men is to retire.

Albert Shilcock, of Paignton, Devon, who plans to sell his eight puppets and red-striped booth, hopes to find a successor to continue the shows. "Some people think that Punch and Judy is too violent, but children know the shows are just good fun," Mr Shilcock said yesterday. "The children realise that the show is so exaggerated that they don't identify with it at all."

Mr Shilcock, 81, who began puppeteering after he left the Army in 1945, thinks children are more disturbed by violence on television than by watching his shows. "They see so many worse things on television and they don't take Punch and Judy seriously," he said. "I have never seen a child cry in all my years as a performer."

Mr Shilcock, or "The Amazing Trelba", used a formula for Punch and Judy shows established over 300 years ago after a Pulcinella puppet was imported from Italy's *commedia dell'arte*. The first reference to an English performance in which the belligerent puppet triumphs over marriage, the law and the supernatural comes from Pepys, who observed a show at Covent Garden in 1662.

In 1984, Labour-controlled Southwark council's women's committee said that a Punch and Judy man should tone down his show, claiming there was enough violence around without children watching Judy take a beating from her husband.

But John Styles, who helped to found the Punch and Judy College of Professors, cites the advice of Dickens, who enjoyed shows in Victorian London and wrote: "The Punch and Judy show is an outrageous joke which no one in existence would think of regarding as an incentive to any course of action or as a model for any kind of conduct."

Mr Styles said Mr Punch had been attacked throughout his history as a subversive influence. "The founders of *Punch* magazine named it after the puppet who represented lampoons against the Establishment," he said.

According to Robert Leach, head of drama at Birmingham University, who has written a history of Punch and Judy, "Mr Punch should not be seen as a male chauvinist, but as an amoral libertarian who attempts to escape from all forms of social control.

"He represents a person striking for freedom against all institutional controls, which in the 17th century were marriage, the law and religion. That's why Mr Punch attacks his wife, hangs the hangman and kills the devil," Mr Leach said. Later, the law becomes a policeman and religion is transformed into the supernatural in the form of a crocodile.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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Handel's Water Music and excerpts from Vivaldi's Four Seasons are featured on the latest CD in The Sunday Times Music Collection. As well as tomorrow's Late Baroque CD, orders can be placed for previous releases in the collection. These include: The Guitar Men featuring Clapton and Hendrix; Vintage Jazz with Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman; and Solid Soul which features Aretha Franklin and James Brown.

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BIRTHDAY GALA CONCERT
National Symphony Orchestra Conductor *David Coleman*
Tenor *Anthony Mee* Sop *Susan McCulloch* Violin *Stephen Bingham*
Ov. *William Tell*. On with the motley, *I Pagliacci*, Sabre Dance, Adagio Albinoni. O my beloved Daddy *Gianni Schicchi*, The Sorcerer's Apprentice, Intermezzo *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Pomp & Circumstance March No.1, Winter The Four Seasons *Vivaldi*, *Che gelida manina*, *Si, mi chiamano Mimi*, *O soave fanciulla* *La Boheme*, Gold & Silver Waltz, Radetzky March, Bolero Ravel

Tuesday 27 December at 7.30
GRAND CLASSICAL GALA
National Symphony Orchestra Cond *David Coleman*
Tenor *Anthony Mee* Piano *Phillip Dyson*
Pro Musica Chorus *Kentish Opera Chorus* *Fanfare Trumpeters of the Royal Artillery Band*
Ov. *Fingal's Cave*, Hallelujah Chorus *Messiah*, On with the motley *I Pagliacci*, Slavonic Dance No.2, *La donna e mobile* *Rigoletto*, Warsaw Concerto, Polovtsian Dances, Grand March *Aida*, *E lucevan le stelle* *Tosca*. Soldiers' Chorus *Faust*, Bolero Ravel, Radetzky March, Nessun dorma TCHAIKOVSKY '1812' OVERTURE with chorus & cannon & mortar effects

Friday 30 December at 7.30
TCHAIKOVSKY GALA CONCERT
National Symphony Orchestra Cond *David Coleman* Piano *Semyon Kruchin*
Principal dancers BALLET CREATIONS led by *Ursula Hageli & Richard Slaughter*
Waltz & *Pas de deux *The Sleeping Beauty*
Piano Concerto No.1 Capriccio Italien
Suite, *Pas de deux & *Dance of the Little Swans *Swan Lake*
Suite *The Nutcracker* with *Dance of the Miriltons
'1812' OVERTURE with cannon & mortar effects
* Items to be danced

Saturday 31 December at 7.30
GRAND OPERA GALA
National Symphony Orchestra Cond *David Coleman*
Malcolm Sargent Festival Choir *Fanfare Trumpeters of the Royal Artillery Band*
FOUR GREAT OPERA STARS
Soprano *Susan McCulloch* Mezzo *Yvonne Howard*
Tenor *Anthony Mee* Baritone *Adrian Clarke*
Ov. *Hansel & Gretel*, Che gelida manina *La Boheme*, Toreador's Song, Habanera *Carmen*, One fine day, Va pensiero *Nabucco*, Flower Duet *Lakme*, Meditation *Thais*, *Softly awakes my heart* *Samson & Delilah*, Anvil Chorus *Il Trovatore*, Brindisi *Traviata*, Grand March *Aida*, Largo al factotum *Barber of Seville*, Duet *Pearlfishers*, Intermezzo *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Quartet *Rigoletto*, *La Wally*, Nessun dorma & Final scene *Turandot*

Sunday 1 January at 7.30
PLANET NEW YEAR GALA
National Symphony Orchestra Conductor *David Coleman*
Sop *Kate Flowers* *Alasdair Malloy* *STRAUSS BALLET COMPANY*
Ov. *Die Fledermaus*, *Artist's Life**, Cuckoo Polka, *Pizzicato Polka*, Emperor Waltz, Chinese Galop, Tritsch Tratsch Polka*, The Sleigh Ride, Explosions Polka, Radetzky March, Persian March*, Roses from the South, Anvil Polka, *Champagne Polka*, Blue Danube*, Vilja *(The Merry Widow)*, Don't be Cross, Vienna City of my dreams, Snowball Polka, Memories of Covent Garden, Homage to Queen Victoria*
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* Items to be danced

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£1bn missile submarine trapped in Scottish loch by activists using inflatable rafts

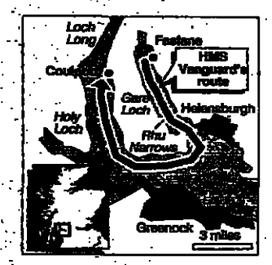
Nuclear protesters keep Trident away from its warheads

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

HMS Vanguard, the Royal Navy's first Trident missile submarine, en route to be "armed-up" with warheads and with the chief of the Navy on board, was blockaded by anti-nuclear protesters in boats across a Scottish bay yesterday.

The £1 billion *Vanguard*, the first of four Trident submarines that are replacing the Polaris fleet, is within days of starting her first patrol as Britain's strategic deterrent.

Yesterday the 16,000-tonne submarine, which is almost as big as a British aircraft carrier, emerged from the drizzle into Gare Loch beyond the Faslane base for the short trip to Coulport Naval facility where the warheads are to be fitted to the American Trident D5 missiles. Greenpeace and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, alerted to the fact that the first Trident was about to be fitted with warheads, gave chase down Gare Loch and flung double rows of buoys linked by wire across the narrowest stretch of the Channel, called Rhu Narrows.



The Royal Navy's most powerful weapon system, which is twice the size of Polaris, was stuck in the channel as police launches tried to protect the submarine while cutting the wires between the buoys. A Greenpeace ocean-going tug, *Solo*, anchored in the middle at the narrowest point, had to be dragged backwards by two Naval tugs to allow *HMS Vanguard* to pass safely. Ministry of Defence police arrested the captain of *Solo*.

Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst, the Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord, said before climbing on board that the building of *HMS Vanguard* had been "a tremendous achievement". He said: "It's as good as the Channel Tunnel." However, on board, he had to witness the blockade of inflatable rafts that delayed *Vanguard's* passage down the Channel by about an hour. The irony of his remark may not have been lost.

The arming of the missiles on board *HMS Vanguard*, known by the Navy as a "black bomber", will begin today inside the 60,000-tonne floating dock at Coulport's explosives handling jetty. The missile hatches on top of the black-tiled hull will be opened and the warheads lowered into position without the missiles being removed from their tubes. Yesterday Commander Peter Wilkinson, who will be captain for the first patrol due to start before the end of the year, said his mission would be to make the submarine "100 per cent invisible". Commander Wilkinson said he was aware that he had "an awesome responsibility" but he was totally confident in the safety of the submarine and in the command chain which, in the event of nuclear war, would necessitate a missile launch order direct from the Prime Minister.

IAN WALDIE/REUTER



A Greenpeace protester flailing in the water after his dinghy collided with a Ministry of Defence police boat

THE TIMES

MORE SPORT ON MONDAY

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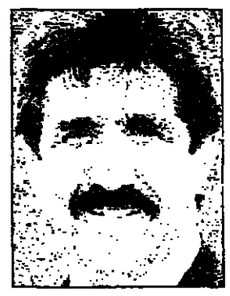
Alan Lee on England's battle for the Ashes

FOOTBALL



Rob Hughes reports on Aston Villa under new management

RUGBY



Gerald Davies and David Hands on Wales v South Africa

PLUS ON WEDNESDAY

The best paper for the Budget

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Dash for lottery boosts jackpot

BY JON ASHWORTH

PUNTERS scrambled to buy National Lottery tickets yesterday in an unexpected dash to enter tonight's televised lottery draw. Camelot, the lottery operator, believes that up to 35 million £1 tickets could be sold by the time entries close at about 7.30pm.

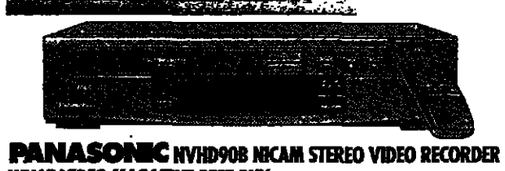
Ticket sales on that scale would guarantee a jackpot pool of about £5 million and boost the chance of tonight's draw creating a millionaire. Sales accelerated on Thursday evening as shoppers took advantage of later opening hours to fill in their entries. The rush continued yesterday, leaving sales figures well up compared with the same period last week.

Camelot said sales were settling down into the pattern seen abroad, where punters traditionally buy their tickets towards the end of the week. *Up to 45 per cent of tickets* are often bought on the day of the draw.

Nearly 800 retail outlets have gone on-line as part of a drive to expand the basic lottery network. Camelot intends to link 1,000 outlets a month during the next two years, *nearly tripling the* present network of about 10,800 terminals.

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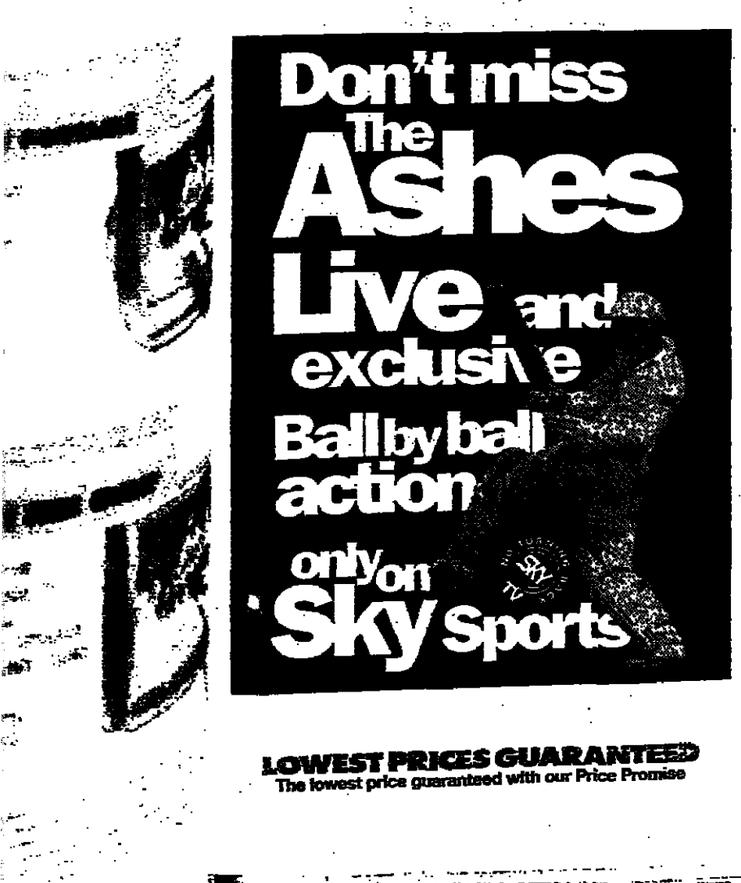
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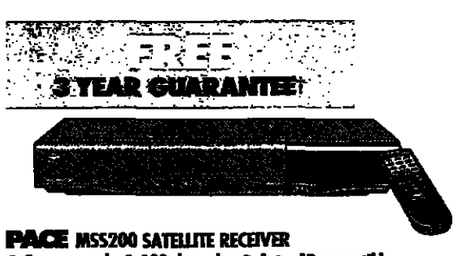
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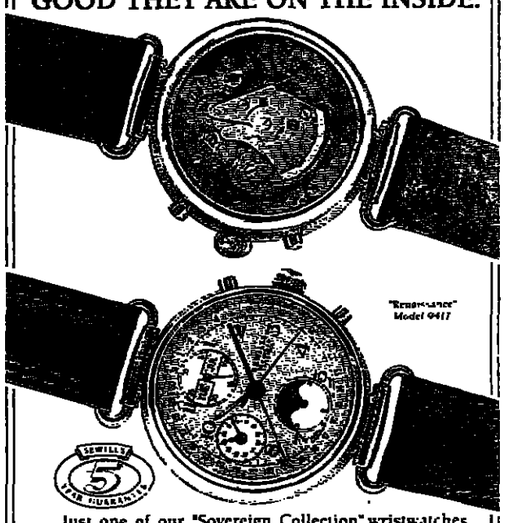
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BT man jailed for two-year campaign of telephone terror

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A BT engineer who used his expert knowledge to terrorise scores of women with abusive telephone calls was jailed for five years yesterday.

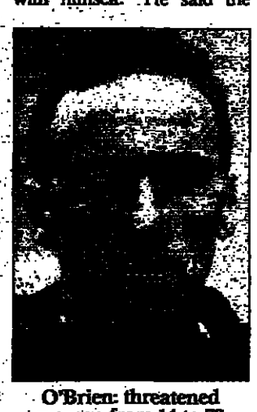
Peter O'Brien, 37, made more than 150 calls to women in four counties over two years. Many were made during office hours from a phone in the first-aid room of BT's headquarters in Leeds which he knew was rarely used.

O'Brien, married with two children, also used BT's old exchanges because new digital equipment enables calls to be traced within 30 seconds. BT said it was one of the worst cases of malicious calls. It took a special team three months to trace O'Brien and it was only in the inquiry's closing stages that they realised the caller must be an insider.

The BT worker, who became known as The Bellboy, picked on single women after finding their details, and in some cases ex-directory numbers, using his knowledge of the phone system. Beverley Crown Court was told that the victims, aged between 14 and 72, had been terrified.

Timothy Clayson, for the prosecution, said that O'Brien frequently spoke of holding a close relative hostage or he would say the relative had suffered a serious accident. "He frequently alleged he was about to rape or inflict serious harm on the relative. He said he had burgled the house of a relative. The conversation frequently turned to sex. On many occasions he would ask his victims to perform some sexual act." In one case his performance was so convincing a woman fled from her home dressed only in a towel because she thought O'Brien was in the next room.

Gerald Lumley, for the defence, said: "He is at a loss to explain why it happened. After each call he was disgusted with himself." He said the calls started after the birth of O'Brien's second child when his wife suffered post-natal depression. Also, he had had bad reports from his bosses and as a result of his problems suffered clinical depression.



O'Brien: threatened women from 14 to 72

O'Brien, of Yeadon, West Yorkshire, offered "profound and sincere apologies" to his victims. At an earlier hearing he had admitted causing a public nuisance and two charges of making threats to kill. Judge Goldsack, QC, said a lengthy prison sentence was necessary not only as a punishment but to show the victims that O'Brien would not be capable of committing such offences again.

The judge said: "In interview you said you were incapable of physically harming anyone. That may be right but people often recover quickly from physical injury. You were inflicting emotional and psychological harm. People often take a long time to recover from that. Some of your victims remain badly scarred as a result of your actions."

After the incidents were discovered O'Brien was sacked from his £15,000 job. A BT spokesman said: "This case is one of the, if not the, most serious we have ever come across."



A Woolworths store crowded after a wartime delivery of kitchenware was destroyed by a V2 flying bomb

Community honours V2 victims

BY JOHN YOUNG

MORE than 300 people are expected to attend a service today to mark the fiftieth anniversary of one of the worst civilian disasters of the Second World War.

Survivors and relatives will gather to recall November 25, 1944, when a V2 rocket fell on a crowded Woolworths store, killing 160 people and wounding more than 120. Eleven more people were never found.

Before the service at St James's Church, New Cross, southeast London, Joan Ruddock, MP for Deptford, and Gurbakhsh Garcha, the mayor of Lewisham, will unveil a plaque above the entrance to a frozen food store on the site.

The missile struck at 12.26pm. The store was crowded as it had just received a consignment of kitchenware, which was hard to obtain. According to Bob Ogley in his book *Doodlebugs and Rockets*, the building bulged slightly outwards and then collapsed inwards in a great cloud of dust and smoke. The Co-Operative store next door also disintegrated, killing more people. Passers-by were thrown long distances through the air, a bus was spun around, lorries overturned, parked cars and delivery vans burst into flames and office workers were killed at their desks.

Another commemoration of London's ordeal from flying bombs was the presentaton on Thursday of a cheque for £10,000 to the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund by Madge Bates, 84, widow of the author H. E. Bates. Bates, who died in 1974 aged 68, was a squadron leader at the Air Ministry during the war and was commissioned to record the development and indiscriminate use of the V1 and V2.

His 30,000-word manuscript under the pseudonym Flying Officer X was considered too sensitive to be published and lay forgotten in the Public Record Office in Kew until discovered by Mr Ogley while researching his book.

Queen to publish accounts on palace spending

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Queen is to publish annual accounts next summer showing how she spends £20 million a year of taxpayers' money on maintaining the occupied royal palaces of England.

Buckingham Palace has fully endorsed the Government's decision to open the books on royal spending, saying that it has a good story of careful husbandry to tell. The move comes after a report in September by the Commons Public Accounts Committee, which, although generally complimentary about the Royal Household's management of its finances, recommended greater openness over how the money was spent.

When the report was published, the Queen was incensed at what she regarded as wilful misreporting in some newspapers that suggested she was mismanaging public funds to maintain the homes of herself and her family.

The first annual report will be published next July, and will detail how money is spent in running Buckingham Palace, Kensington Palace, St James's Palace with Clarence House, Windsor Castle and several other minor properties used by the royal family. Historic palaces such as Hampton Court and the Tower of London are not involved.

The Queen took over direct responsibility for running the palaces from the Department of the Environment in 1991 and appointed Michael Peat, partner in a leading City accountancy firm, as her finance director. Since then the Palace has submitted full annual accounts to the Department of National Heritage, which until now has chosen not to make the figures public.

The Palace has always claimed that it has no objection to its accounts being published, but that the decision lies with Stephen Dorrell, the Heritage Secretary, who supplies the money.

Shephard urges local authorities to help save failing schools

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION EDITOR

POOR schools will enter a downward spiral to failure unless local authorities step in to help to improve standards, Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, told chief education officers yesterday.

Examination league tables published on Tuesday revealed more than 100 state schools where fewer than one pupil in ten achieved five good GCSE passes. Mrs Shephard has already called in inspectors to single out those with serious weaknesses and help them to develop action plans.

But, calling for a joint approach to weaker schools, she appealed to local authorities to give priority to those on the edge of failure. Only 15 schools out of more than 1,000 inspected for the Office for Standards in Education have been labelled as failing, but a similar number were labelled "near misses". Having identified the schools needing special help, Ofsted will monitor the effect of the action plans. If the scheme is a success, the Education Department will encourage local authorities to plough more of their own resources into such projects.

Mrs Shephard said primary and special schools seemed most in need of outside help. Although most of the schools inspected by Ofsted have been in the secondary sector, three primaries and one special school are among the 15 failures.

In a speech to the education officers' standing conference at Warwick University, Mrs Shephard said of poor schools: "We must catch them before the serious weaknesses lead on to a downward spiral and failure. We want to work with you and schools and all the other players committed to the same objective. We want to find out what schools are doing to improve effectiveness: what works; and what doesn't."

Among the possible aids to improvement she identified were old-fashioned strategies such as awarding children stars, medals and certificates for good work. Some heads were also using more modern concepts of total quality and target-setting.

Mrs Shephard said all were worth trying. "The three Rs are important, but so are the three Es: schools that are Enjoyable and Enterprising are also likely to be more Effective." Performance tables presented schools with opportunities to measure achievement, Mrs Shephard said. She challenged the officers: "Please don't tell me you already know all the answers — unless, of course, you have no weak school, at all, in your area." A former education officer herself, Mrs Shephard stressed the continuing importance of local education authorities, despite the Government's promotion of grant-maintained schools.

☐ Tower Hamlets in east London is introducing a confidential helpline for parents who fear that their children are truanting from school. The borough has the third highest rate of unauthorised absence from school in England, according to the latest league tables.



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Old-style nationalisation rejected in favour of a competitive market economy

Blair outlines his vision of a future without Clause 4

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

TONY BLAIR has proposed that Clause 4 be replaced by a commitment to a competitive market economy and signalled that a Labour government will not renationalise industries sold off by the Tories.

In a document going to leadership colleagues this weekend, Mr Blair says that Labour should back a strong private sector combined with public ownership and public provision where that is appropriate on the grounds of efficiency and equity. Labour's traditional demand for public ownership should not "be our reflex answer to all market failures".

The document, written by the Labour leader and his deputy, John Prescott, has been agreed by senior shadow Cabinet members and a handful of union leaders. It represents Mr Blair's views of the values and objectives of the modern Labour Party. Its key underlying theme is that the market economy is compatible with socialist aims.

It makes plain that instead of taking back the industries sold off by the Tories since 1979, there should be tougher regulation to make them more responsive to consumers. In a rejection of old-style nationalisation, Mr Blair says that Labour understands "the weaknesses of the monolithic state corporations that have been typical of nationalised industries in the past".

Political parties must define clearly what they stand for, setting out core values from which they draw strength, unity and coherence. Although Labour Party policy is made by the annual conference and its manifesto, the constitution needs to set out "the values that bind us together".

The document says: "Clause 4 does not set out Labour's values in a clear way." Although part of Clause 4 gives a commitment to extend freedom, the "vast bulk of it is really about ways to advance our values, rather than a statement of the values themselves".

The document defines three central issues to be considered about Clause 4: does it define Labour in a manner appropriate to the 1990s and beyond? Is its view of the economy satisfactory for the modern world? Is its definition of what we stand for sufficiently comprehensive? The document responds negatively to each of these questions.

Equality forms a core part of the document but it moves away from setting a rigid formula by making clear that "we do not believe in absolute arithmetic equality".

Discrimination is unacceptable on grounds of race, sex, race, disability, religion or sexuality gender, but the paper calls for reduction of "material inequalities that divide rich from poor and diminish life-chances". Inequalities in one aspect of life, such as income, "should not be allowed to spill over to create inequality in another, such as education".

The document calls for an end to inequalities in one generation leading to unequal opportunities in the next, in terms of both wealth and environmental matters. "We all need to recognise that it is inequality which can produce uniformity and equality which can promote diversity."

On public ownership, the document says that in practice Labour has always looked at the issues on an individual case basis, weighing up pros and cons of nationalisation. It calls for a competitive market economy, with a strong private sector and a suitable role for public ownership for reasons of efficiency as well as equity.

For example, essential public services should treat all citizens equally on the basis of their common humanity and not unequally on the basis of their purchasing power. "Treatment for ill-health should be on the basis of need; opportunity in education should be open to all with the ability to benefit from it. That is why they should be publicly managed."

Public ownership can extend the principles of social responsibility and meet the goals of efficiency and equity. "But it does not follow that common ownership is our reflex answer to all market failures. The central question should always be how we protect and advance the public interest in the efficient and equitable production and distribution of goods and services."

The paper acknowledges the weaknesses of past nationalised industries. However, the party needs to look at various options between private ownership and government control, including co-operatives and employee share ownership. Society must be founded on values of social justice, freedom, opportunity, equality, democracy and responsibility and solidarity at home and abroad.

In defining a free society, the paper draws on definitions set down by the Social Justice Commission. A free society is the equal worth of all its citizens. Everyone is entitled to basic shelter and income. Providing opportunities will also ensure self-respect and equality. Although some inequalities are acceptable, such as seniority in the workplace, unjust inequalities should be eliminated where possible.

Recognising the achievements of the Labour movement over the past 100 years, the paper says that and its founding values and ambitions still hold good. However, although the core ways of achieving these values also hold good, "they need to be directed towards contemporary issues at the heart of modern politics".

The party's democratic socialist traditions dictate the belief that individuals prosper when supported by a strong, active community, and that people owe a duty to each other as well as to themselves. "This is an old idea but also a big idea. It is also an idea that holds the key to social, political and economic change."

Socialism has been built on the practice of building a successful society. While individuals and families will want to prosper, Labour does "not see success and personal prosperity as inconsistent either with compassion and duty towards others or to the broader society in which we live".

Leading article, page 21

CHRIS HARRIS



Tony Blair believes Labour must define the core values from which it can draw strength, unity and coherence

THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF CLAUSE 4

1. To organise and maintain in Parliament and in the country a political Labour Party.
2. To co-operate with the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, or other kindred organisations, in joint political or other action in harmony with the party constitution and standing orders.
3. To give effect as far as may be practicable to the principles from time to time approved by the party conference.
4. To secure for the workers by hand or by brain the full fruits of their industry and the most equitable distribution thereof that may be possible upon the basis of the common ownership of the means of production, distribution, and exchange, and the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of each industry or service.
5. Generally to promote the political, social and economic emancipation of the people, and more particularly of those who depend directly upon their own exertions by hand or by brain for the means of life.



Sidney and Beatrice Webb, who devised Clause 4 in 1918 to distinguish Labour from the Liberal Party

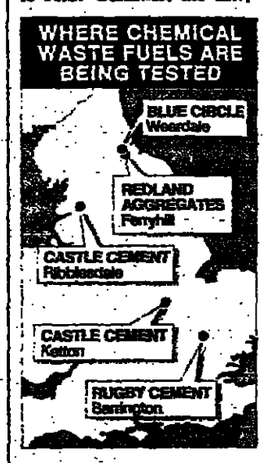
Gummer urged to ban use of waste as fuel

BY NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

TONY Blair is urging a ban on the burning of chemical industry wastes as fuels amid fears that they are a threat to health and causing pollution.

The wastes are being tested by cement companies and kiln operators as cheap alternatives to traditional fuels such as coal and coke. Environmental groups claim the experiments, approved by the pollution inspectorate, are increasing emissions of airborne pollutants linked with cancer, male infertility and damage to the immune system.

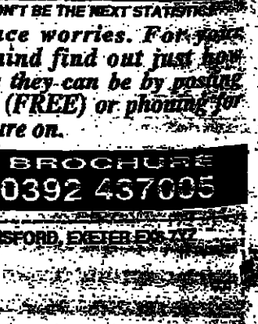
After a tanker spill of toxic chemicals this month near a playground in the village of West Cornforth, in the Labour leader's Sedgefield constituency, Co Durham, he has written to John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, calling for an inquiry into the test burns. Mr Blair urged Mr Gummer to "place a total ban on the use of such fuels ... in view of the danger to my constituents and the environment," until the inquiry had reported.



The tanker was going to Redland Aggregates's Thrislington Quarry where limestone is processed for the steel industry. Residents claim the spill has led to skin irritations, mouth ulcers and eye complaints.

The fuel, a solvent-based liquid, is one of a range of novel wastes being tested – by Blue Circle, Redland, Castle Cement and Rugby Cement – at five sites in Britain.

Greenpeace allege that burning recycled liquid fuels is adding to dioxin levels, linked to various dangers to health. Tim Birch, of Greenpeace, said: "They are dangerous to transport and even more dangerous when they are burnt".



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Lifejacket error cost lives, canoe trial is told

By Kathryn Knight

THE four victims of the Lyme Bay canoe tragedy would probably have survived if their lifejackets had been inflated, a court was told yesterday. Commander Edward Oakley, a Royal Navy sea survival expert, said that he considered the misuse of the lifejackets to be "the single most important factor leading to these tragic deaths".

The jury was told that the lifejackets of Simon Dunn, Claire Langley, Rachel Walker, all 16, and Dean Sayer, 17, were not fully inflated in the water and could not function properly. The four pupils drowned after their canoes capsized two miles offshore.

Commander Oakley told Winchester Crown Court that there should have been an immediate instruction to inflate the lifejackets. "In fact, they had entered the water not wearing lifejackets and no action was taken to convert them into life jackets," he said.

The jackets did have buoyancy pads but the amount they provided was not sufficient to sustain a person afloat with their airways clear of the water, he said.

Asked by Jonathan Barnes, junior counsel for the prosecution, whether the teenagers would have survived if the lifejackets had been inflated throughout their time in the water, Commander Oakley answered firmly "Yes."

Last week, the court was told how Karen Gardner, 23, one of the supervisors who led the expedition, said she "expected" she had told the teenagers that they would only inflate their lifejackets in an emergency. Under examination by Neil Butterfield, QC, for the prosecution, she said: "I'm not sure I was too familiar with what an emergency was."

Commander Oakley was also concerned that none of the children wore a hat or protective headgear on the expedition. "We always advise, at least in the event of an emergency, that headwear should be donned," he said. Hypothermia impaired the ability to ensure survival long before loss of consciousness, and in those circumstances an unprotected head could lose a substantial amount of heat, he said. No one on the trip had a flare or a marine band radio.

Peter Kite, managing director of Active Learning and Leisure Ltd, Joseph Stoddart, manager of the Lyme Bay activity centre, and OLL, formerly Active Learning and Leisure Ltd, have each denied four charges of manslaughter.

The trial continues.

Family sent to prison over murder secret

A MOTHER, father and daughter were sentenced yesterday after refusing to disclose who killed a violent womaniser whose body was found in a canal.

Linda Bowman, 42, and her daughter Sarah, 22, had both slept with Michael White, by whom Sarah had a daughter. The two women were cleared by an Old Bailey jury last month of conspiracy to murder the bodybuilder but were found guilty of conspiring to pervert the course of justice by hampering the police inquiry. Terry Bowman, 45, admitted conspiring to pervert the course of justice. The court was told that Mr White was killed in the Bowman's home in Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Mr and Mrs Bowman were jailed for three years but Judge Pownall, QC, gave Sarah a two-year suspended sentence, with a 12-month supervision order, saying she had a child to care for.

Priest and divorcé to marry in register office

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent

ONE of the Church of England's newly ordained women priests will be married today to her own church organist. But the Rev Christine Streeter, curate at Rosedale Abbey in North Yorkshire, will marry David Haddon-Reece in a register office ceremony because he is a divorcé.

"The wedding, thought to be the first of its kind since women were ordained as priests this summer, highlights confusion in the Church on whether its line on divorce and remarriage should be relaxed. The General Synod will debate a private member's motion next Friday allowing divorcees to be remarried in church.

The Church of England's official line on marriage is strict. It maintains that marriage is for life and does not grant annulments. However, because secular law allows remarriage, practice in the Church is diverse, with some clergy allowing divorcees to remarry in church and others refusing such requests.

The Methodist Church has allowed divorcees to remarry in church for nearly 50 years. However, the Roman Catholic Church does not even allow remarried divorcees to receive communion, and does not permit a divorcee without an annulment to remarry in church.

Miss Streeter met Mr Haddon-Reece, a retired English Heritage scientist, during a pastoral visit to his home in Rosedale two years ago. Besides being curate at Rosedale Abbey, she runs five churches in the scattered parishes of the North Yorkshire moors.

She said the couple did not even ask the Bishop of Whitby, the Right Rev Gordon Bates, for a church wedding because they knew he would be bound to say no. "We have to toe the line and uphold what the Church of England is saying," she said. Instead, after the register office ceremony, they will be blessed by a vicar from a neighbouring parish at St Mary's church, Lastingham. She said: "We decided to uphold church law as it stands because I don't want to stand in opposition to the Church, although I do think it should sort itself out on this particular issue.

"With a rising divorce rate, it is becoming increasingly difficult. Pastorally, it can create big problems when we can't remarry divorcees in church. If you have couples who are members of your congregation, who are Christians, who want to make vows before God and for whom it is the real thing, as it is with us, there seems no good reason for them not to have a church wedding."

She said her fiancé's first marriage had been at a register office. "It would have been very meaningful indeed for us to marry in church, and the blessing afterwards will be the service with the deepest meaning for us."

The Rev Paul Needle, a university lecturer, who has put down next week's synod motion on the remarriage of divorcees, said: "This is the sort of thing I want sorted out. If she was a curate in another diocese, she would not have this problem. It is total anarchy."

☐ The number of people who go to Sunday services in the Church of England has fallen for the first time in five years, according to a statistical report published yesterday. But those who go are giving more, the report disclosed. It also showed that fewer people go to church at Christmas, despite church campaigns to persuade more people to attend.

At Your Service, Weekend, page 2

JAMIE WISEMAN: PICK OF YORK



The Rev Christine Streeter with her husband-to-be David Haddon-Reece outside St Mary's church, Lastingham, where their marriage will be blessed

Credo

Showing a need to improve Church's image

Jean Montgomerie

THE Christian Church is going through an identity crisis. We gather for worship to recognise the worth of God in our lives, to tease out some of the questions we are asking in the light of what we know of God through scripture and supremely in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, to put ourselves under the scrutiny of that knowledge, and to find comfort and encouragement for the variety of experiences which we go through in life.

But many people in our society look on the Church in a completely different light and it is good to stand back and "see oorsel's as ithers see us". Thus it was in a spirit of willingness to be entertained and humbled by the latest comedy based on the appointment of a woman vicar to a country parish that I tuned in to the new series on BBC1 *The Vicar of Dibley*.



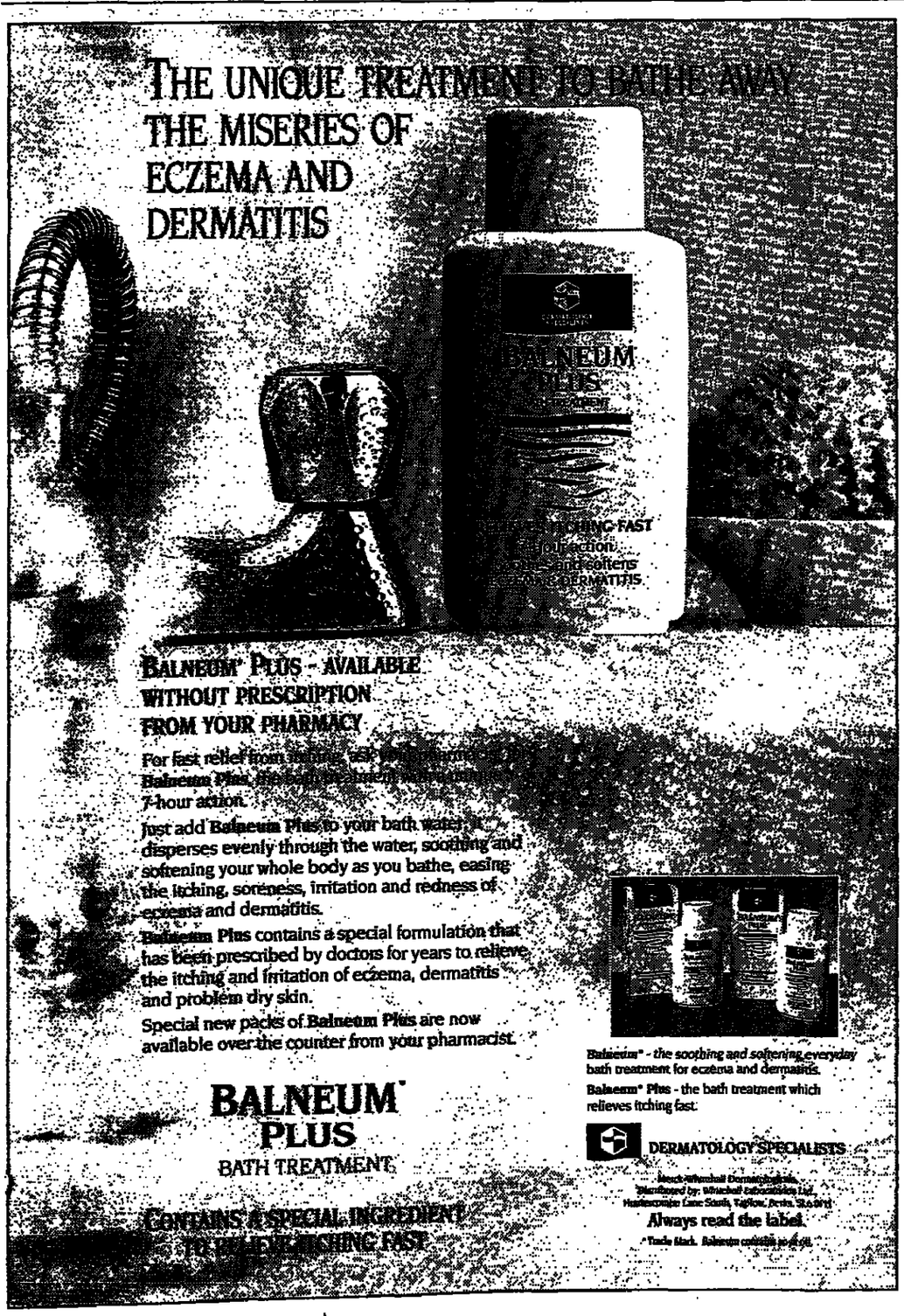
The subject has obvious appeal in the light of the first ordinations of women to the priesthood of the Church of England — more than 25 years after the acceptance of women into the ministry of the Church of Scotland, a quarter century that pales into insignificance when you realise that the Congregational Union has had women ministers for much longer than that. But, back to *The Vicar of Dibley*. This was, frankly, disappointing. Apart from the sexual overtones, there are clearly at least two other comments on the Christian Church implicit in the programme which, if they are truly a reflection of what people imagine is going on in the Church, explain why so many in our society distance themselves from it.

The programme portrays those who are involved in the Church as, bluntly, foolish. I have found the ordinary congregation to be a broad cross-section of humanity with its head firmly screwed to its body and its heart more concerned with *agape* — Christian love — than *eros*. The Church brings together people from a variety of backgrounds and with a great divergence of interests. The miracle is that we manage to stay together and work and worship together.

The second undertone that affected me was the suggestion that worship in the Church needs to be livened up. I always begin from a fundamental assumption that worship has little in common with entertainment, and that we should constantly guard against the temptation to move in that direction. I also have a healthy suspicion of any attempt in worship to carry people along on a tide of emotion. I believe worship is about nurturing our relationship with God and that it is, therefore, of necessity sometimes a serious business!

Perhaps, after all, *The Vicar of Dibley* has done me a service — I may not have been entertained, but I have been provoked to look again at the perceptions which many people have of the Church of Jesus Christ. We obviously need to find ways of encouraging people to get behind the *Church*, to look past the *vicar*, or the *minister*, to God who so gloriously showed himself to the world in a way we can understand: in Jesus Christ.

☐ *The Rev Jean Montgomerie is minister of Peterculter Kelman Memorial Church, Aberdeen, and a former convener of the Church of Scotland's Board of Ministry*





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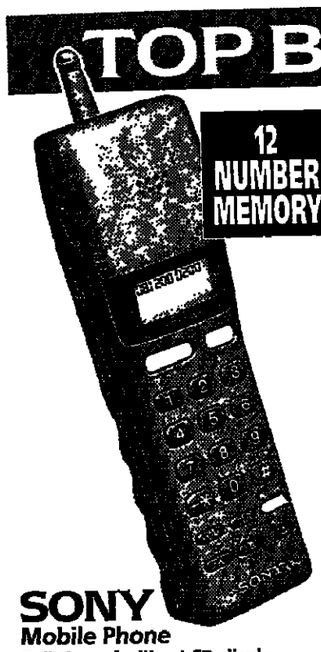
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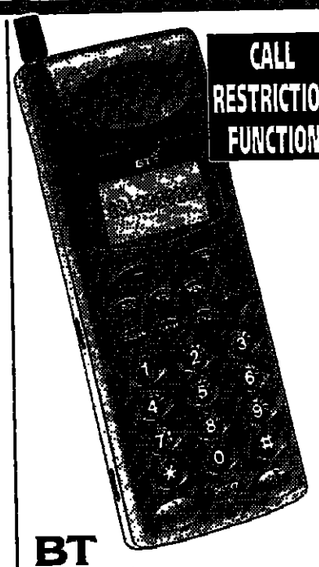


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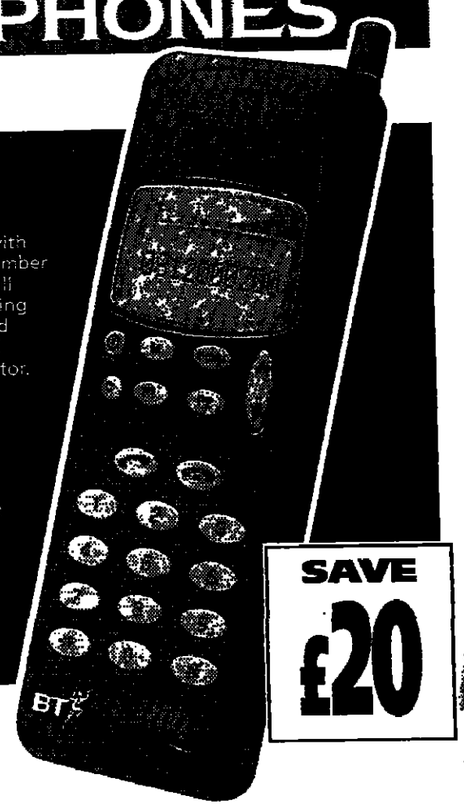


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Theory of rainfall erosion throws into question the dawning of civilisation in ancient Egypt

Geologist insists Sphinx is older than Pyramids

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

THE *Great Sphinx of Giza* could be thousands of years older than previously believed, throwing into question the whole origin of civilisation in Egypt.

The assertion is based on studies of the way the limestone rock of the Sphinx has been eroded, apparently by rain. So little rain falls in the area that this type of erosion is difficult to explain, and the nearby Pyramids do not suffer from it. The claim is that the Sphinx must therefore date from an older period, when Egypt was much wetter.

Egyptologists have dismissed the theory, arguing that the Sphinx was made from weaker rock, which has simply eroded faster. But tomorrow the BBC television programme *Timewatch* presents new evidence from the theory's originators, John Anthony West, an amateur Egyptologist, and Professor Robert Schoch of Boston University. They say that the Sphinx was made of exactly the same rock as nearby tombs, which have not eroded. Similar rock strata and similar fossils were found in both, proving they are the same. "Many attempts have been made to explain away my data," Professor Schoch says on the *Timewatch* film, "but none of them explain all of the data as completely as my hypothesis. It is standing up, it hasn't been refuted."


Napoleon's men found the Sphinx half-buried

The Sphinx has fascinated scholars ever since Napoleon's soldiers found its head sticking out of the desert sand in 1798. Later excavations revealed that the huge beast, cut from the solid rock, also had a body, and it has long been believed that both *Sphinx and Pyramids date* from roughly the same period, about 2550 BC.

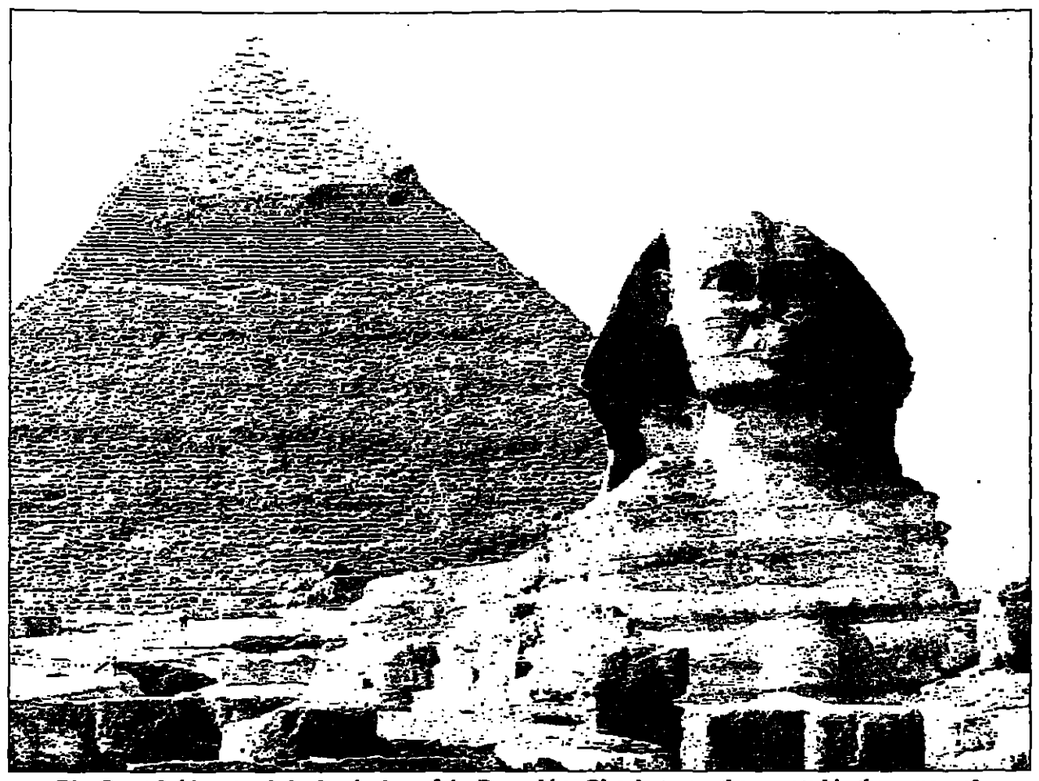
The face of the Sphinx is said to be that of Chephren, the ruler of Egypt at the time it is supposed to have been built, though it bears no real resemblance to a statue of Chephren in the Cairo museum. The base of the Sphinx is heavily eroded and has narrow clefts.

Professor Schoch, a geologist, says that this kind of erosion in limestone can be caused only by water. The Pyramids, by contrast, are eroded in a different way, by wind and sand. The evidence suggests, he says, that the Sphinx was made at least 500 years earlier, and is possibly thousands of years older.

The main critics of the theory are Dr Mark Lehner of Chicago University and Dr Zawi Hawass, director of antiquities in the area. In a recent issue of *Archeology Magazine*, they said: "Even if the Sphinx was eroded by rain, West and Schoch never *demonstrate why the rainfall* over the last 4,500 years would not have been sufficient to round off the corners. To point simply to the 'morphology of the rock', the way it looks, is not enough to convince us of the enormous ramifications they attach to this distinction."

Dr Lehner's strongest argument may be that the proponents of an older Sphinx have yet to show any evidence of the civilisation that produced it, while the later Egyptian societies are represented so abundantly.

Leading article, page 21


The Great Sphinx stands in the shadow of the Pyramid at Giza, but were they created in the same era?

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer North *Love all*

	♠K95 ♥A852 ♦Q4 ♣AKJ7	
♠AQ7 ♥87 ♦AK75 ♣10982		♠64 ♥QJ1094 ♦963 ♣543
	♠J10832 ♥K3 ♦J1082 ♣Q5	

W	N	E	S
—	1♠	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦ (1)
Pass	4♠	All pass	

Opening lead: A

(1) Dubious; with most of his high cards in his short suits 3NT was a reasonable alternative

By Robert Sheehan
Bridge Correspondent

After the ace of diamonds West continued with the king and ruffed. How should the declarer play after winning the third round of diamonds in hand?

Answer: to bring in the trumps for one loser, South must place West with the queen of spades, but it is not enough just to play spades immediately — West can win the ace of spades, and play a fourth diamond, forcing dummy to ruff and thus promoting a trump trick for his queen.

At the table South got this far, and played three rounds of clubs, discarding a diamond. He then played a heart back to his hand and led the jack of spades. West rose with the ace and played another heart. Declarer won in dummy and had to find a way back to his hand to take another spade finesse — should he ruff a heart or a club? West had played two, eight, ten of clubs and seven, eight of hearts; in good company carding of this sort is not of great significance, but the declarer decided West was more likely to have a third heart than a fourth club, so he tried to ruff a heart and was over-ruffed to go one down.

Was this just unlucky? No — before running the jack of trumps all declarer had to do was cash the ace of hearts before playing a heart to his king. Now if West rises with the ace of spades, declarer can ruff any return in hand and run the ten of trumps. This line only fails if West had started with a singleton heart.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Hasty exit

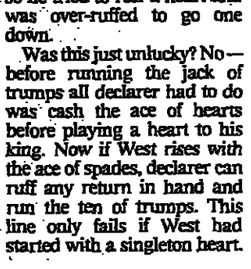
The Indian grandmaster Viswanathan Anand enjoys a reputation as the fastest moving player on the international chess circuit. Some of his opponents have even been known to lose on time forfeit in games where Anand has merely taken a few minutes on the clock. One would, therefore, have expected Anand to shine in rapid play events, where the players have to make all their moves in 25 minutes each on the chess clock. However, in the Paris leg of the Intel Grand Prix he fell in the first round.

White: Anatoly Vaiser
Black: Viswanathan Anand
Paris Intel Grand Prix, 1994

Grunfeld Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	Nc3	d5
4	cxd5	Nxd5
5	e4	Nxc3
6	bxc3	Bg7
7	Nf3	c5
8	Rb1	0-0
9	Be2	cxd4
10	cxd4	Qa5+
11	Bd2	Qxa2
12	0-0	Bg4
13	Bg5	h6
14	Be3	Nc6
15	d5	Na5
16	Rb4	Bxf3
17	Bxf3	Nc4
18	Bd4	Nd2
19	Rb2	Nd3+
20	Qxf3	Qa6
21	Bxg7	Kxg7
22	Qc3+	Kg8
23	Qc7	Rfe8
24	Rxb7	Qd3
25	Qe5	a5
26	Rxe7	Rxe7
27	Qxe7	Rb8
28	h4	Qd4
29	d6	Rb2
30	e5	a4
31	Qd8+	Kh7
32	Qf6	Rb7
33	Rc1	g5
34	hxg5	hxg5
35	Qxg5	Rb8
36	Rc7	Qd5
37	d7	a3
38	Rc3	Rb1+
39	Kh2	Qxd7
40	Qh5+	Kg7
41	Rg3+	Kf8
42	Qh8+	Ke7
43	Qf6+	Kf8
44	Rxa3	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



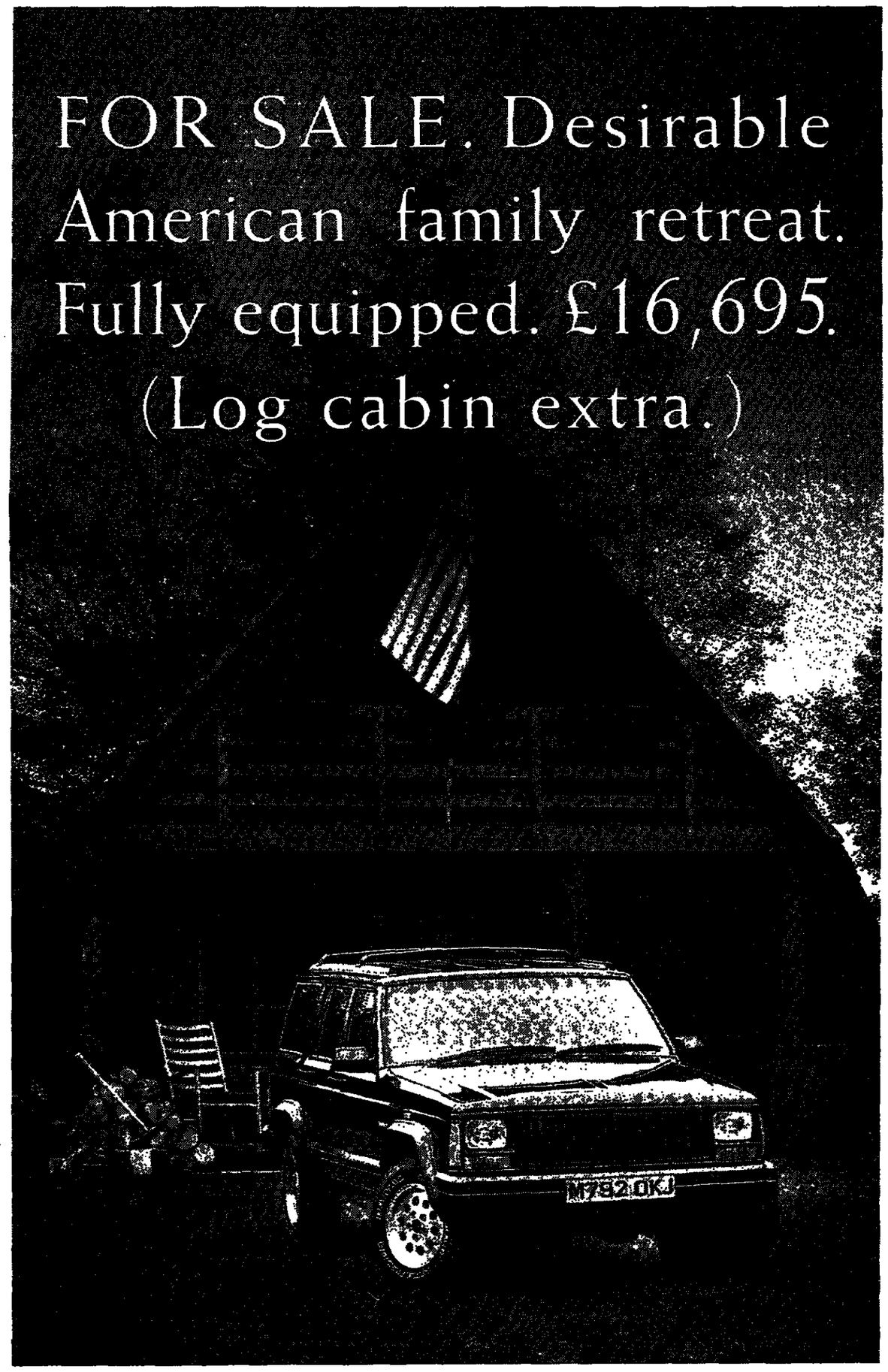
Kamsky's complaint

The American grandmaster Gata Kamsky, the only player still surviving in both the Professional Chess Association and World Chess Federation world championship cycles, and widely tipped as a future world champion, has issued a lengthy list of complaints against the PCA and its commissioner Bob Rice. Kamsky says that he was unfairly excluded from the PCA Grand Prix events in New York and Paris, with lesser lights invited instead.

Winning Move, Weekend, page 29

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Times Christmas Appeal: your chance to help British Red Cross Society

Fire victims praise tea, sympathy and support

By John Young

TEN days ago Dan Huffey, a retired teacher aged 79, had an unpleasant shock. On his way to the kitchen to check how supper was progressing, he realised that a fierce fire was blazing on the other side of the door.

He called his neighbours, the fire brigade was summoned and the blaze was extinguished with little damage to the rest of his semi-detached house in Hull. But, to his surprise and delight, the firemen were followed by "two splendid ladies in a large car who said they had come to see how they might help". Mr Huffey, whose wife Ruth is unable to walk more than a short distance, was enormously impressed by the way the two visitors, volunteers from the British Red Cross fire victim support scheme, went about their task. "They said they intended to buck up our morale, and that's just what they did. They made cups of tea, chatted with us, and then went into the kitchen where they cleaned up everything. After that they went out and bought us all fish and chips.

"They bucked us up enormously because they were so cheerful. There was a lot of laughter, which in the circumstances was quite unusual." The fire victim support scheme is a pilot project established last year to provide emotional and practical help for those who have suffered the distress of a blaze in their homes.

The volunteers, whose work is based on a similar programme run by the Red Cross in the United States, are able to replace items lost in the fire, such as clothing and toiletries, blankets and toys, and, if necessary, supply transport to temporary accommodation. They also give advice on how to submit insurance claims.

Five pilot schemes have been established in Berkshire, Co Durham, Humberside, Buckinghamshire and Merseyside, each with about 20 volunteers who work a rota in pairs. Some have mobile homes available, equipped with showers, cookers, clothes and baby food.

The schemes operate in conjunction with county fire brigades between 6pm and 8am during the week and round the clock at weekends. The Red Cross emphasises that they are not intended to replace the emergency services but to provide additional support for fire victims who, after the firemen have left, are faced with clearing up the mess and coming to terms with their loss.

"Neither our neighbours nor ourselves had even heard of this service," Mr Huffey said. "But they were absolutely magnificent."

Mr Huffey's praise echoes that of others who have received Red Cross visitors from the pilot schemes, and contrasts with those who have seen their homes damaged or destroyed by fire and been left to cope alone. "We were very much on our own after the fire brigade left," one victim said. "Practical help and counselling would have been a great help to us."

THE TIMES Christmas Appeal in aid of BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY



ROSS PARRY

Dan and Ruth Huffey were "bucked up enormously" by the volunteers who arrived after a blaze in their kitchen

Care embraces family reunions and relief for wounded in war

By John Young

THE origins of the International Red Cross date from the Battle of Solferino in 1859 between the French and the Austrians. Henry Dunant, a young Swiss businessman, was so disturbed by the carnage and suffering that he wrote *A Memory of Solferino*, calling for permanent relief societies to be formed to care for those wounded in war, and for an international convention to be adopted to allow them safe passage and to protect hospitals, field stations and ambulances from attack.

The Geneva Convention for War Wounded in 1864 established the badge of the Red Cross as a sign of care and protection for the war wounded. Although it is commonly thought to be a Christian symbol, it is an inversion of the Swiss national flag in recognition of the instrumental role played by the Swiss in initiating the convention. But, in deference to Muslim sensibilities, the Red Crescent has been accorded equal recognition.

The IRC today is one of the world's largest humanitarian organisations with a global membership of about 250 million and national societies in 163 countries.

The British Red Cross was founded in 1870 after a plea by Colonel Robert Loyd Lindsay VC in the letters page of *The Times*. The Princess of Wales recently marked her return to public life when she agreed to be patron of the 125th anniversary appeal, which will be launched in mid-January.

The British arm operates at home and overseas where emergency assistance is needed. In addition to its full-time staff it has more than 75,000 volunteer workers and some 17,500 youth and junior members who provide care for people in their local communities and undertake fund-raising activities.

There are 89 British Red Cross branches in the United Kingdom, responsible for more than 800 centres and some 4,000 local groups. They offer emergency assistance to the statutory services in time of crisis; a community programme that includes the short-term loan of essential medical services such as wheelchairs and commodes, and transport for those unable to travel unaided; training in first aid; youth development; and tracing missing relatives.

Last year it raised £47 million from donations, the provision of services, legacies, investments and its shops.



Dunant: Swiss founder

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THE TIMES Christmas Appeal in aid of BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

Stability of older ferries criticised

By Tim Jones
Transport Correspondent

STABILITY standards for roll-on, roll-off ferries built before 1990 are inadequate, a marine safety expert claimed yesterday.

Alan Graham, project officer for the UK Ro-Ro Passenger Ship Safety Research Programme, said that research indicated the standards did not provide protection against the risk of a ferry being damaged in a vulnerable part in rough seas.

He told a symposium of marine experts that tests indicated that stability standards for more modern ships were adequate in seas where waves were lower than six feet. Yesterday's conference was organised before the *Estonia* ferry disaster in September in which more than 900 people died in the Baltic.

According to a BBC *Newsnight* investigation, the *Estonia* sank because of a fundamental flaw in her design. It claimed the ferry's inner watertight bow doors were positioned in such a way that when the outer bow doors were ripped off by heavy seas they opened the inner doors and the ship sank. According to the programme, the inner bow doors were not positioned far enough back from the bows, in contravention of International Maritime Organisation regulations.

Since the disaster, the organisation has set up a further ferry safety research programme that is expected to call for tougher standards.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Group 4 detainee escapes

An immigrant escorted by the security firm Group 4 escaped yesterday as he arrived for a hospital appointment in Uxbridge, west London. A spokesman said: "This man was an immigration service detainee and we have no powers to use force ... I can't say it won't happen again."

Embezzler jailed

An aircraft enthusiast was jailed for nine months for stealing funds aimed at keeping the last RAF Vulcan flying. Peter Quicke of Thorney, Nottinghamshire, embezzled £3,500 from the Vulcan Association. Peterborough Crown Court heard.

Sentence mocked

A man appearing at the Old Bailey for biting the ear of a stranger raised his arm and shouted "cheers" when the judge jailed him for two years. Laurie Ridley, 23, of Romford, east London, had already begun a seven-year sentence for a racial attack.

High hopes

A unemployed milkman plans to sail the Atlantic in a boat named *Pipe Dream* that he made from a 95ft hospital cooling tower. Bob Dyer, 21, of Wallingford, Oxfordshire, salvaged the steel tower from a Welsh hospital and made it into a 45ft craft.

Police call 999

A group of policemen who arrested a burglar on the roof of a bank had to be rescued by firemen after they became stuck. Maidstone Crown Court was told. Jason Reeve, 25, of Rainham, Kent, was jailed for a year after admitting burglary.

Bionic duck

Alan Jones, a bird doctor, has grafted a man-made section of beak on to a duck after it was torn off by a fox. Jackie Smith, of Fobbing, Essex, the duck's owner, said: "At first he tried to shake it off but now he loves it and can feed and groom himself again."

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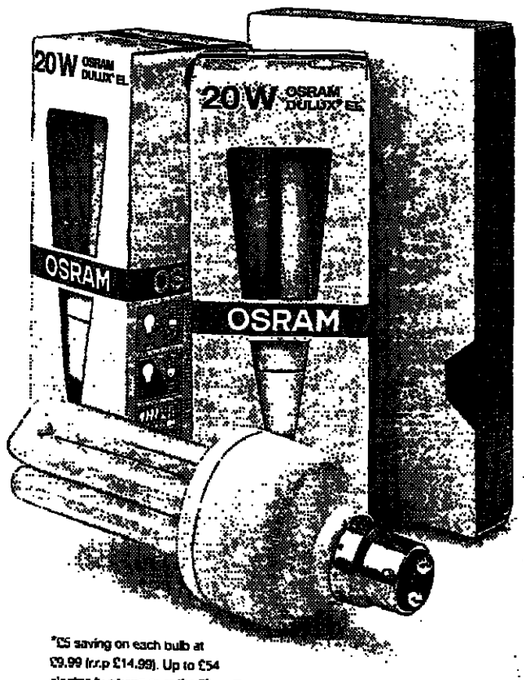
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Akashi threatens more airstrikes to rescue Bihac

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

YASUSHI Akashi, the United Nations special envoy to the former Yugoslavia, yesterday threatened airstrikes in the Bihac area if either side in the fighting there commits "unjustified provocations". Last night there were reports that a Nato airstrike had already taken place.

Speaking from Zagreb, Mr Akashi said: "We will have to resort to close air support or other types of air support as necessary. But we have to be very prudent, to use ... the minimum necessary response to unjustified provocations by either side." He told Sky News there was "a large risk of collateral damage to civilians" as infantry fighting between the Bosnian Serbs and the Muslim-led Bosnian army raged close to Bihac town and its 70,000 inhabitants.

The Serbs have secured a quarter of what was ostensibly the UN-protected "safe area" around the town and were reported to be torching settlements, although a tentative ceasefire arrangement appeared to be holding around the town in northwest Bosnia.

Late yesterday, UN officials were awaiting a response from the Serbs on a Bosnian government ceasefire offer for Bihac and the rest of the republic. Privately, UN officials were pessimistic. "Things will have to resolve themselves on the battlefield even more definitively before a deal like this can be struck," said one.



As the UN and Western leaders struggled to define an approach to the crisis, an aid worker who visited the town yesterday said streets were empty and that the mood among residents and newly-arrived refugees hiding in homes and buildings was extremely tense. "They really fear," Monique Teffelli of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said by satellite telephone from area. "They really don't understand their situation and they really don't understand how this could have happened."

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, was in contact with President Izetbegovic of Bosnia, Willy Claes, the Nato Secretary-General, and Mr Akashi, as well as military commanders on the ground yesterday.

In Brussels, Mr Claes criticised the allies for being slow to back an American plan aimed at ending the siege of Bihac. "They should have perhaps been able to push further," Mr Claes said after an emergency meeting of the 16 Nato ambassadors late on Thursday ended in indecision over such questions as who should provide ground forces to monitor and enforce an American "stabilisation plan" to extend the "safe area" around Bihac.

The Serbs have now seized about 25 per cent of the existing "safe area", according to a UN map shown to reporters yesterday. They had already captured several small residential areas in the south of the zone, as well as the key high ground dominating the town before the lull in the fighting, the UN said. "The Serbs are at the gates of the town," said a peacekeeping official who asked not be identified.

Advancing Serb troops were "demonstrating their policy of burning villages and towns in their wake", an unreleased UN report said. It added that such conduct called into question statements by Serb leaders promising to protect the civilian population.

Confusion within the UN and among Western nations over how to respond to the Serbs' incursion persisted throughout the day. "The fall of Bihac would be a turning point and would have repercussions on the whole region," Richard Duque, the French Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "Along with the Unprofor command, France considers that the situation cannot be allowed to deteriorate without reacting." By all accounts, however, there was no suggestion of a consensus on what to do. "We are in disarray, like the Security Council and the North Atlantic council [Nato]," said another UN official. "Now that they more or less have the green light from Nato that the "safe area" is meaningless, the Serbs can gobble up the whole area, as they like." Late on Thursday night, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN comander in Bosnia, suggested that his patience had run out and that Nato war planes would have to respond to the blatant Serb assault on the "safe area". He told reporters he had "made certain recommendations" to his UN chiefs.

But by yesterday morning, General Rose was optimistic over the prospects for a ceasefire which would end the fighting in the "safe area" and take much of the pressure off Nato countries. In a press briefing, one of General Rose's aides down played the crisis. A statement listed a series of "encouraging" signs for the UN. Referring to some 50 UN military observers being held by the Serbs as hostages against further airstrikes, it said: "It is encouraging that the [observers] are safe in their houses." The UN has still not publicly admitted that several unarmed observers were forced to lie on a Serb military runway as human shields on Wednesday, the day Nato planes attacked nearby missile batteries.

☐ **Zagreb:** The Bosnian government has singled out Britain as the Western power most responsible for a hands-off policy towards intervention to save Bihac. "Some European governments led by Great Britain still believe we should not defend ourselves. This is genocide," Haris Silajdzic, the Prime Minister, said. *(Reuter)*



A French UN member of an anti-sniper unit monitoring Serb activity from the most dangerous spot in Sarajevo near the Holiday Inn

Rose sticks with flawed mission

BY JOEL BRAND

WHEN Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose strode out of the sandbagged United Nations headquarters in Sarajevo a few days after he arrived last January, he began a new era in the two-year-old war.

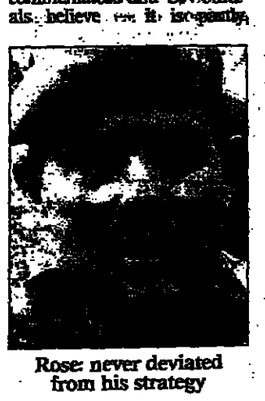
If the Serb offensive which has partially overrun the Bihac "safe area" is the international community's worst crisis of the war — as many commentators and UN officials believe — it is partly because the British general has performed his mission so well.

General Rose, a former SAS commander, went to the war with a well calculated strategy — one from which he and his aides say he has never deviated.

Seasoned observers agree almost unanimously that General Rose is the only one with the experience and confidence to balance a large peacekeeping operation, essentially held hostage by the Serbs, with the aggressive, forceful approach of Nato. Yet the fear of Serb recriminations against peacekeepers has left the rebels largely in charge.

The success General Rose shepherded in during the winter and spring was in the end, superficial.

But the fact that the only foreign casualties in the Bihac tragedy have been the credibility of the UN, Nato and Western countries seems a result of the skill with which General Rose has carried out a fatally flawed mission.



Rose: never deviated from his strategy

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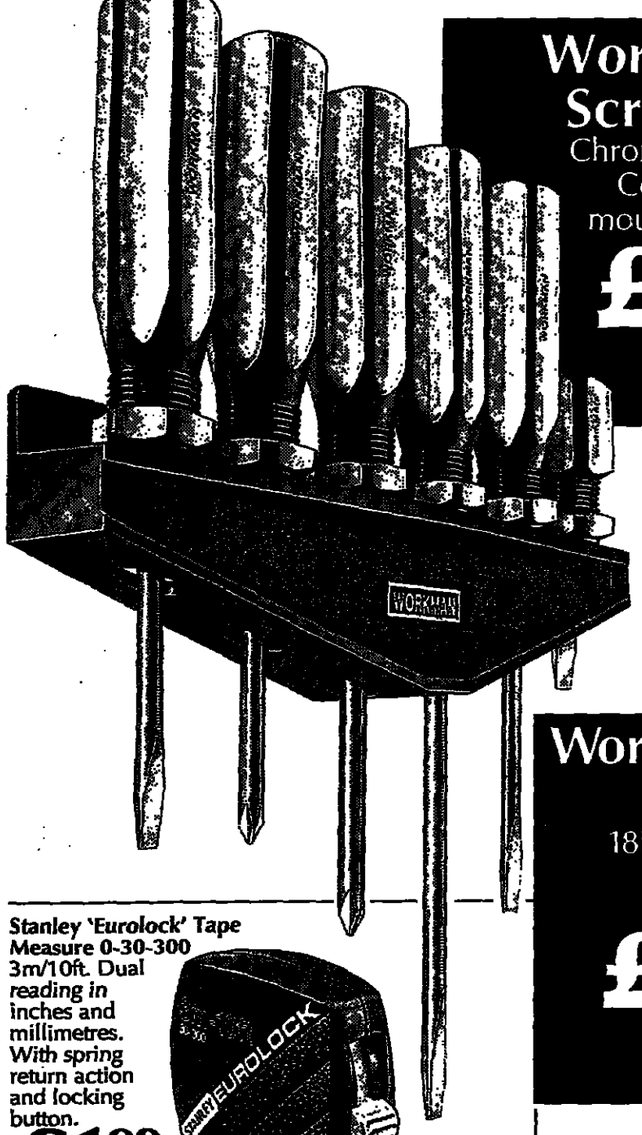
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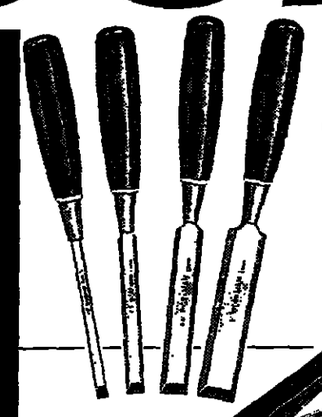
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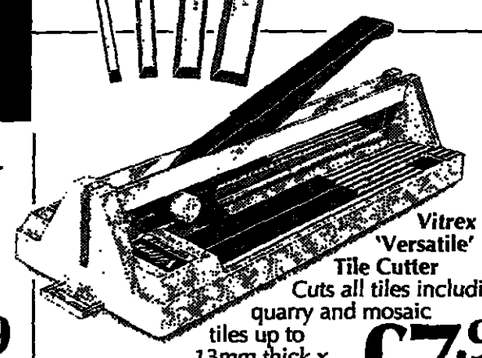
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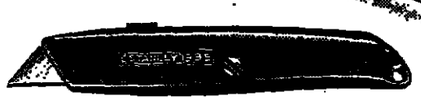


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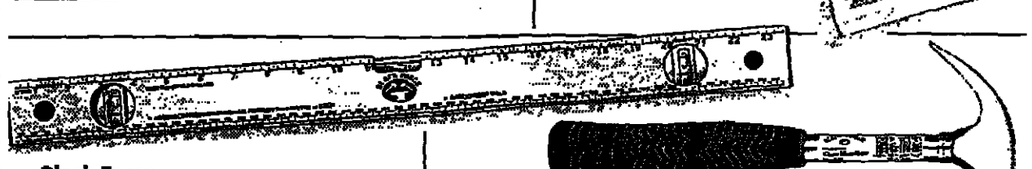
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Norway's 'yes' camp hopes for late swing in EU poll

BY ANNE MCELVOY

NORWAY'S three million voters head to the polls on Monday to vote on whether to join the European Union, with the "No to Brussels" camp threatening to precipitate a crisis by blocking ratification should only a narrow majority emerge in favour of integration.

As the "no" camp's lead in the polls narrowed slightly yesterday, campaigners claimed that the result was so important that they would only accept a decisive "yes" vote. "We would not give in to a one-vote majority," said Erik Solheim, leader of the Socialist Left party, which, with the equally Euro-sceptic Centre Party, has enough votes to block ratification in the Storting (parliament).

Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Labour Prime Minister, is hoping for a late pro-EU swing, similar to that which occurred in Sweden earlier this month. She has warned that Norway faces exclusion from the debate on European security and economic isolation if it *opts to stay outside the* EU and has staked her own future on the outcome.

But hostility to integration runs deep in a country fiercely proud of its independence, gained in 1905 after 400 years of Danish rule followed by a 90-year union with Sweden. Many of today's voters remain suspicious of external influence and regard EU membership as a gravy train which will benefit the elite, but not ordinary people.

In her final broadcast before the poll, Mrs Brundtland implored: "*Be responsible. Vote 'yes'* for Norway's sake." But her confidence seems to have taken a knock and she has hinted that she may seek to amend the constitution and dissolve parliament if the vote produces a deadlock.

Berlusconi digs in for long battle with judges

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SILVIO Berlusconi, the Prime Minister, insisted on remaining in office yesterday in spite of facing a formal judicial inquiry into alleged corruption.

Signor Berlusconi sought to play out the crisis, which erupted after magistrates in Milan placed him under investigation on Monday, by carrying on.

"I can guarantee you that as far as the Prime Minister is concerned; I have a firm desire to carry on," Signor Berlusconi said. He said a Cabinet review scheduled for Tuesday should concentrate on establishing whether there was enough consensus on the government's programme to remain in power.

Political sources said that the 57-year-old billionaire is likely to last one week at most at Palazzo Chigi because of his plummeting popularity. The only way out for the embattled Prime Minister appeared to be the creation of a diversion so that Italians would stop clamouring for his resignation, sources said. In the past, right-wing terrorists sought to destabilise the country with a series of bombings, some of which caused heavy civilian casualties and were linked to covert anti-Communist activities by the CIA and other espionage agencies.

However, last night Signor Berlusconi was given some hope with the publication of a poll, claiming that 53 per cent of Italians think that he should not resign. The poll, commissioned by the left-wing *L'Espresso* magazine, reflected concern that Signor Berlusconi's woes could plunge the country into anarchy if he is forced to resign before parliament passes a vital budget bill.

A meeting between the Prime Minister and trade union leaders on Thursday was inconclusive and it was unclear whether a general strike called by the trade unions for next Friday would go ahead. The unions are protesting against planned cuts in spending on pensions and health. Signor Berlusconi has insisted that he is innocent of corrupting tax inspectors, but Francesco Saverio Borelli, the chief Milan prosecutor, has insisted that there is sufficient evidence to warrant the formal investigation against the Prime Minister. Signor Berlusconi is expected to have a "conversation" with the Milan judges over the weekend, but he has said that he will not resign unless he loses a vote of confidence in parliament.

Meanwhile opposition sources expressed concern that Signor Berlusconi and his entourage might seek extra-parliamentary solutions. The Prime Minister was a member of the Masonic lodge P-2 that was banned in 1982 after about 2,000 top people were found to belong to the organisation with a view to subverting Italian democracy. A coup d'état would be a desperate measure for the Prime Minister to retain power, but some left-wing politicians fear that right-wing extremists might seek to profit from the uncertainty by planting bombs.

Signor Berlusconi had an audience yesterday afternoon with President Scalfaro at the Quirinal Palace, which the Prime Minister claimed was cordial.



Silvio Berlusconi addresses a farmers' union conference in Rome yesterday before meeting President Scalfaro

German humour taxed by dodgers

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMAN talk show hosts, film stars and top footballers who have sought tax exile in Belgium and Luxembourg are to be called to book by Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister.

Belgium is often the butt of German and French jokes. But for chat show performers such as Harald Schmidt and Margarethe Schreinemakers, actors such as Dirk Bach, and dozens of footballers who earn more than £200,000 a year, the country is no laughing matter.

Top German earners benefit from a double taxation agreement that allows them to pay only 15 per cent income tax in Germany and not a franc in Belgium. In the new frontier-free Europe, it is an easy matter to commute by autobahn to television studios or football grounds in Cologne.

The tax ruling was orginally supposed to benefit average earners, travelling between Belgium and Germany, and thus reduce paperwork. Instead Schmidt, a witty, gangling television comic who would normally have paid 54 per cent tax, saved around £300,000 a year by the simple, if boring, device of living in the Belgium countryside near the German border.

Now Herr Waigel has decided to plug the loophole and *renegotiate the double tax* accord in a budget crackdown. One reason is that the minister has discovered an embarrassing shortfall in German tax revenue this year. Receipts from a new tax on investment income, for example, should have raised around £10 billion. Instead the likely income will be less than half that — partly because of tax evasion.



Left Bank literati scorn politicians' rush into print

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS



Juppé: volume reveals his poetic side

FRENCH politicians take pride in juggling parallel jobs, but a batch of the most eminent are raising the hackles of the intellectual world by turning out books.

Le Figaro said yesterday that it was fine for De Gaulle or Churchill to produce autobiographies when out of office, but wondered how supposedly over-worked statesmen found the time. For the Left Bank thinkers annoyed at politicians who usurp their territory, the *answer in some cases is obvious*: plagiarism and ghost-writers.

In the past fortnight, three new volumes have been published, all guaranteed large sales by virtue of their celebrity authors. Jacques Delors and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, and François Bayrou, the Education Minister. The appearance of *Unité D'un Homme*, M Delors' 400-page treatise on his personal philosophy, can be attributed to his likely candidacy for the Socialists in the French presidential race.

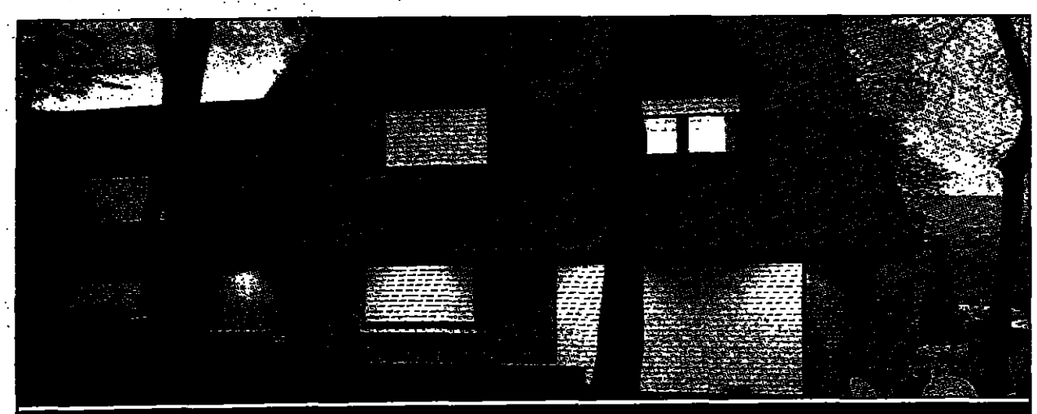
However, M Bayrou, who, is also secretary of the centrist UDF grouping, has turned out a biography of Henri IV, the 16th-century king, while Alain Juppé, the Foreign Minister, produced poetic reflections called *La Tentation De Venise* during the 1993 general election.

While their efforts have been fairly well received, the same does not apply to *Georges Mandel. The Monk of Politics*, by Nicholas Sarkozy, the Budget Minister, Communications Minister, government spokesman and Mayor of Neuilly, about a minor political figure who was murdered in the Second World War. His adversaries have delighted in showing *how M Sarkozy allegedly lifted whole* stretches from a 1969 biography of his subject. The most mocked effort by far, however, is *Le Passage*, a first novel, complete with erotic scenes, by M Giscard d'Estaing, 68, the former President. "Sometimes, when the nose for business prevails over a sense of the ridiculous, something like *Le Passage* forces itself into the bookshops," *Libération* said yesterday. "What on earth possessed him?" is the standard question being asked at Paris dinner parties, where the new game is to read from the book without laughing.

The same trick is being applied to the book of *haiku* poems published by Michel Noir, the Mayor of Lyons and former Gaullist minister, who is to be tried on corruption charges. A sample of his work: "The runny Nose/Starry sky/I hear an ant". All this has led Françoise *Giroud, the novelist, to say* sneeringly: "You do not decree yourself to be a writer. You are either one or not."

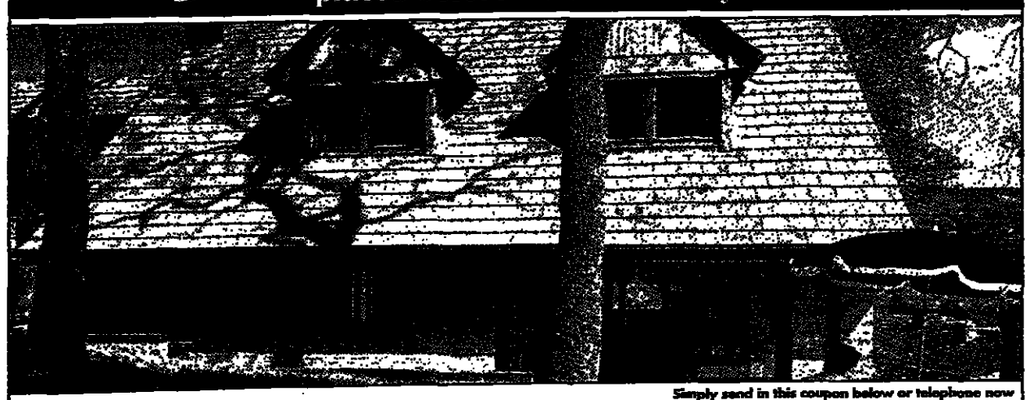


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Prime Minister speaks of nuclear danger on eve of visit to Britain

Bhutto seeks prize from West for Pakistan's stand against extremists

Benazir Bhutto, in an interview with Peregrine Hodson, says that the West is biased in favour of India and that Pakistan's role in opposing the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan has gone unnoticed

Benazir Bhutto starts an official visit to London tomorrow intent on convincing Western countries that Pakistan is a model of Islamic moderation and nuclear restraint which should be rewarded if she is to resist fundamentalist pressures.

The Oxford-educated Prime Minister is frustrated at the continued refusal of the Americans to release aid or deliver the F16 jet fighter-bombers which have been paid for. Nor has Washington rewarded Islamabad for helping to oppose the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, for its role in worldwide peacekeeping or its moderation in the dispute with India over Kashmir.

"I can tell them, unless they review their policies towards non-proliferation, the 'fundos' — the fundmentalists — are going to go totally proliferationist." Miss Bhutto said.

"Pakistan, since 1990 has seen a cut-off of aid. It has still not detonated a nuclear device, or exported nuclear technology. It has shown respect. For what? For further criticism? Or for recognition and reward? There's a growing movement within Pakistan that says, 'if you're not getting anywhere for being good guys, then what's the point?' "

The Prime Minister denied that there was pressure from the military establishment for such a move.

"I conducted a poll and 90 per cent thought Pakistan should detonate a nuclear device. It's a dangerous situation. Pakistan has showed restraint. This should be recognised and rewarded.

"If it isn't, the forces of moderation will be thrown to one side and the forces of extremism will take over. We have a lot of extremists around. We don't want another Bosnia."

Miss Bhutto said that the Pressler amendment which prevents export of the F16s is discriminatory and must be repealed, the West must stop insisting that Pakistan takes unilateral steps, and there must be an even-handed approach to her country and India.

"[Pakistan is] the only moderate Muslim country in the region. It's very important to support moderation in the Muslim world. Pakistan could be a role model. A policy which [looks] at just one issue out of context is detrimental. Even now, we have 2.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and nobody's helping us to bear that burden. We've even been told the little relief we are getting is being reduced by 60 per cent. We've been left with the problems of drugs and Kalashnikovs. A worldwide effort is needed to build housing in the safe parts of Afghanistan. Unless there's something to go back to, the people won't go back.

The United States, once a generous donor to Pakistan during the war against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, has reduced its aid to a trickle. "We agreed to send a contigent to Haiti, under the US flag. But one must ask [whether] the Pressler amendment helped to achieve the aim of nuclear non-proliferation in the region? I think there's a consensus between the US government, Pakistan, and independent thinkers that, by invoking Pressler, the US has not succeeded in promoting non-proliferation. It became a veto in Indian hands. If you start having double standards, you're not going to have regional non-proliferation. While India is 'a counterbalance to China', what does America or any other country, expect Pakistan to do? Pakistan and India have fought three wars together. Pakistan is vulnerable. It must keep up with India."

Miss Bhutto called on India to take the first step towards peace negotiations by a significant reduction of troops in Kashmir, a repeal of the emergency laws in the area, and an end to the daily killing. "Forty to fifty people are killed there, every day. Holding talks against such a background is very difficult."

The problems caused by the confused British withdrawal from Kashmir 50 years ago still dominate relations between Pakistan and India, but the Prime Minister hopes that India will respond to the new realism around the world. "Look at South Africa. Whoever thought Arafat and Rabin would sit down and sign an agreement? Whoever thought that there would be a ceasefire in Ulster? All over the world, political leaders are realising that outdated policies of force and oppression do not pay."

> ❛ If you're not getting anywhere for being good guys, what's the point? ❜

A large percentage of Pakistan's budget is spent on defence, against the possible threat from India, with its long-range Agni ballistic missiles, and shorter-range Prithvi missles over the border.

"Of course, if we didn't have tension with India, the priorities would change. The military itself is also sensitive to the idea that the economy must grow. And the economy will not grow if, like Russia, the country becomes a militarised state which only concentrates on developing military hardware, instead of developing the social and economic sectors of the country.

"But I can tell you, every single Pakistani would be prepared to sacrifice food, clothing, shelter — everything — if there was a threat to Pakistan, that necessitated our spending more."

Miss Bhutto has cut the budget deficit, reduced domestic borrowing and is liberalising the economy. Private investment banks have been set up and laws for privatisation have been passed. She wants Pakistan shares listed abroad.

During the interview, Aseefa, the Prime Minister's two-year-old daughter, arrived, kissed her mother and settled onto her lap.

"Last time, the drug barons used their money to fund a no-confidence campaign against my government. This time we've just refused to deal with them. We would rather lose political office, than lose the battle against drugs."

"The newspapers here in Pakistan have the freedom, but they don't have the responsibility. There's a frenzy built up. The president of our country, I, my husband, have all been accused of the most terrible misconduct of office. Unsubstantiated. Baseless. The newspapers write that the Prime Minister is an Indian agent. It's ridiculous. Or accusations of financial corruption. I believe in honesty and hard work and devotion. I came from a wealthy background and I never believed that money can buy happiness. It's what you do in your life — your character, your hard work — that counts.

"They made these charges against my husband. He was a businessman when he chose to marry me. If he had been the sort of man for whom money was the most important thing, he would never have married Benazir Bhutto. But he chose to sacrifice his political and business career, because he had this vision that I was a lady in distress, and he was a knight in shining armour to my rescue. Then he said, 'Well, the lady's not so fragile.'

"In Pakistan, the print media is against every government. The only government they weren't against was Zia's. So I suppose it's a good sign. If they're against a government, it means they're free.

"I am a Muslim woman, and I don't think it's Islam which denies us our rights — it is men. Whether they live in the East or the West, they somehow fear women, and want to keep them locked up behind bars. The core issues to the women's rights movement can be found in the Islamic message. But men do not adhere to that message."

However, the Islamic message is conspicuously ignored, or misapplied in some Pakistan police stations, where the police have frequently treated women rape victims as adulterers.

"Obviously rape is rape, and adultery is adultery, and Islam makes a distinction between both. But the laws that General Zia passed do not make the distinction. We have set up a commission on laws relating to women, which need amendment. It has parliamentarians from both sides of the political divide and some women activists. We hope they will show some concrete laws."

During her visit to Europe, the Prime Minister's main objective is to project the Kashmir issue and make the world more aware of the tension in the sub-continent. She also wants aid, trade and investment in Pakistan.

One year after becoming Prime Minister, what has been achieved? Domestically, her critics might say, not enough. At home, her priorities have been energy and population planning. Abroad, she is delighted by the success of her programme to attract international investment. "$5 billion (£3.2 billion) in direct internal investment, and contracts for $8 billion with the private sector in coal development. A staggering amount since, from 1971 to the present, total private investment has only been $2 billion dollars."

"The economic indicators with the World Bank and the IMF are pointing to Pakistan as a success story. We have shares, and we would like many more people to have an opportunity to buy them."

Miss Bhutto said the main priority for investment was the railways. "It takes 15 days for cargo to go from Karachi to Peshawar. With dualised track, it could be done in three. There's a need for a railway track from Pakistan, through west Afghanistan, into central Asia. And ports. We're also privatising power plants, and selling shares in banks and gas utilities. And we're looking for a strategic buyer, a year and a half down the line, in the telecommunications sector."

During her visit to Britain, the Prime Minister will be signing a number of important deals, highlighting British investment in Pakistan. These include a concession agreement with Lasmo Plc, worth £128 million, for oil and gas exploration rights. ICI, which has been active in Pakistan for many years, is also signing a letter of intent to build a plant near Karachi worth £256 million.

Miss Bhutto, who will meet the Queen and John Major, will be accompanied to London by a large delegation including Assef Ahmed Ali, the Foreign Minister, and Anwar Saifullah Khan, the Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister.

The visit's economic agenda will dwell on investment in the gas and electricity generation and distribution, a sector that has been the object of a major privatisation drive over recent months.

A Pakistani diplomat said yesterday that the Prime Minister would discuss Kashmir with British officials, but not expect any change of stance. London, while condemning human rights abuses in the Kashmir valley, control of which is divided between Islamabad and India, favours direct talks between the two countries to resolve the dispute. Pakistan, on the other hand, has for several years called for the matter be dealt with on an international level. Britain has also called for the ending of any military support for the Kashmiri militant separatists fighting Indian rule, allegedly provided from the Pakistani-controlled zone, a claim that is denied by Islamabad.

> ❛ It's very important to support moderation in the Muslim world ❜

Worries about the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Pakistan's role in United Nations peacekeeping forces around the globe are also expected to be raised during the visit. Pakistan has 10,000 soldiers deployed in peacekeeping operations, including Somalia and the former Yugoslavia, making it the world's largest single provider of UN troops.

UN forces have become exposed in the latest surge of fighting, in which Bosnian Serb troops this week attacked the UN "safe haven" of Bihac, where about 1,000 Bangladeshi "blue helmet" soldiers were deployed.

On Thursday, Miss Bhutto will visit Bradford, where she will meet members of the city's large Pakistani community.

British investors already have a major stake in Pakistan, representing 15 per cent of all foreign investment, ahead of Japan and second only to the United States.

Bilateral trade is slightly tilted in Britain's favour. Its exports to Pakistan last year were worth £338 million, mainly industrial goods, power equipment and medical and pharmaceutical products. Imports were £324 million, comprising textiles and agricultural products.

Leading article, page 21



DES JENSON

Benazir Bhutto, who is to visit Britain where she will hold talks with the Queen and John Major, chats to her two-year-old daughter, Aseefa, at their home in Islamabad

Austrian coalition agrees on big cuts

Vienna: Austria's Social Democrats and the conservative People's Party announced the formation of a new coalition government yesterday, nearly seven weeks after suffering their worst results in a general election since 1945.

The parties, architects of Austria's feather-bedded welfare system, agreed to make big cuts in bloated public spending commitments in what would amount to one of the most radical reform programmes for years. Trade union leaders, acknowledging the need for savings, have said they will fight the government if it went too far. (Reuter)

Arson fear at concert

Gdansk: Police said arsonists may have started a huge fire at a rock concert in which three people were killed, including a girl of 13, and 280 injured. The fire was at the Baltic shipyard where Lech Walesa, now Poland's President, united striking workers in the Solidarity movement.

"We don't know yet what caused the fire but there is a possibility it was arson," a police spokesman said. The deaths were occurred when panicking fans stampeded. The shipyard hall burned to the ground. (Reuter)

Helicopters hit Grozny

Moscow: Some 40 helicopter gunships bearing Russian markings launched a fierce attack on positions loyal to the pro-independence government yesterday around the Chechen capital Grozny, Interfax reported. The unprecedented airborne assault, apparently by the Russian-backed' opposition movement, killed at least three people and injured eight.

Chechen military authorities said the helicopters came from neighbouring Russian territory. The Defence Ministry here "categorically" denied that there had been any Russian troop participation. (AFP)

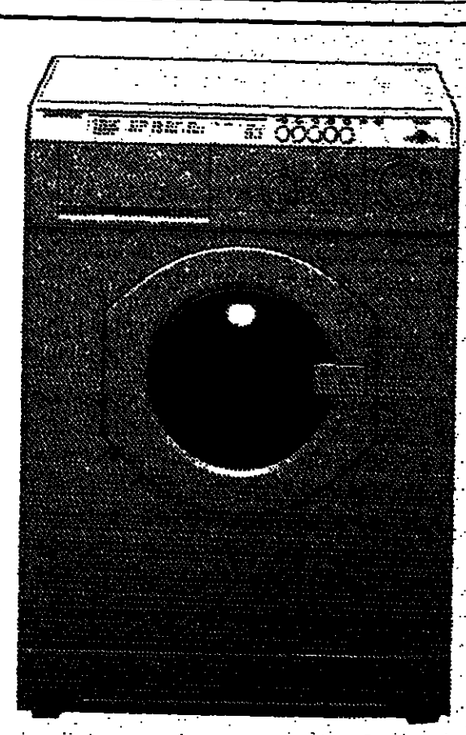
Wild fungi kill 18 Turks

Istanbul: Turkish health officials here have banned wild mushroom hunting after 18 people died of poisoning and about 175 became ill. Hurriyet Yilmaz, of the Health Department, said the ban on collecting, buying and selling wild mushrooms was issued in response to the outbreak, which began on November 18. She said 49 people were still in hospital.

Televised warnings were issued and forestry officials have been asked to post notices near popular mushrooming sites. Officials blame heavy rains that have created ideal conditions for wild mushrooms. (Reuter)

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Scandal blights inauguration of Mexican leader

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

REVELATIONS of a high-level political cover-up in the murder of a senior ruling party official have cast a sinister shadow over next week's inauguration of Mexico's new President, Ernesto Zedillo.

Señor Zedillo was elected in August with promises to clean up the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) which has governed Mexico for 65 years, often through the use of fraud and intimidation. But the PRI's "annus horribilis", which began with a peasant insurrection in the southern state of Chiapas in January and was followed by the assassination in March of the presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio, continues with allegations of skulduggery on the party.

On Wednesday — "bloody Wednesday", people are calling it — Mario Ruiz Massieu, the Deputy Attorney-General, resigned from his job and from the PRI after accusing leading members of the party of covering up the murder of his brother, José Ruiz Massieu, the PRI secretary-general, who was shot dead in the street outside a Mexico City hotel in September.

The gunman and some accomplices were arrested and are awaiting trial, but a fugitive PRI congressman and others accused of ordering the killing have evaded the police, allegedly with the help of party officials.

According to Señor Ruiz, important evidence in the cover-up of the murder is being kept in sealed boxes at the Attorney-General's office. He has demanded that the boxes be opened publicly when Señor Zedillo takes office on Thursday.

In a report, Señor Ruiz said that the conspiracy to kill his brother involved a mixture of political interests within the PRI and a cartel of drug traffickers in the north of the country. According to American officials, the Gulf of Mexico cartel, as it is known, is linked to the infamous Cali cartel in Colombia.

Señor Riiz said that Gulf cartel bosses paid £211,000 for his brother's murder, apparently as part of an attempt to dissuade Mexican law officials from continuing their efforts to capture Juan Garcia Abrego, the cartel's fugitive chief.

At a press conference surrounded by police and more than a dozen armed bodyguards, Señor Ruiz attacked the PRI leadership, calling Ignacio Pichardo, the party president, shameless for trying to protect his brother's killers. He said that several top PRI officials should be charged with obstruction of justice for their role in the cover-up, including the Attorney-General and the new party secretary-general.

"The demons are on the loose and they have triumphed," he said, adding that some members of the PRI "do not understand that the country has changed, that old, corrupt, unhealthy and even criminal practices must be put aside. On September 28 one bullet killed two Ruiz Massieus. One lost his life, while the other lost his faith and hope that a PRI government could bring justice."

All the accused officials have said they are innocent, adding that Señor Ruiz's allegations amount to a "moral lynching".

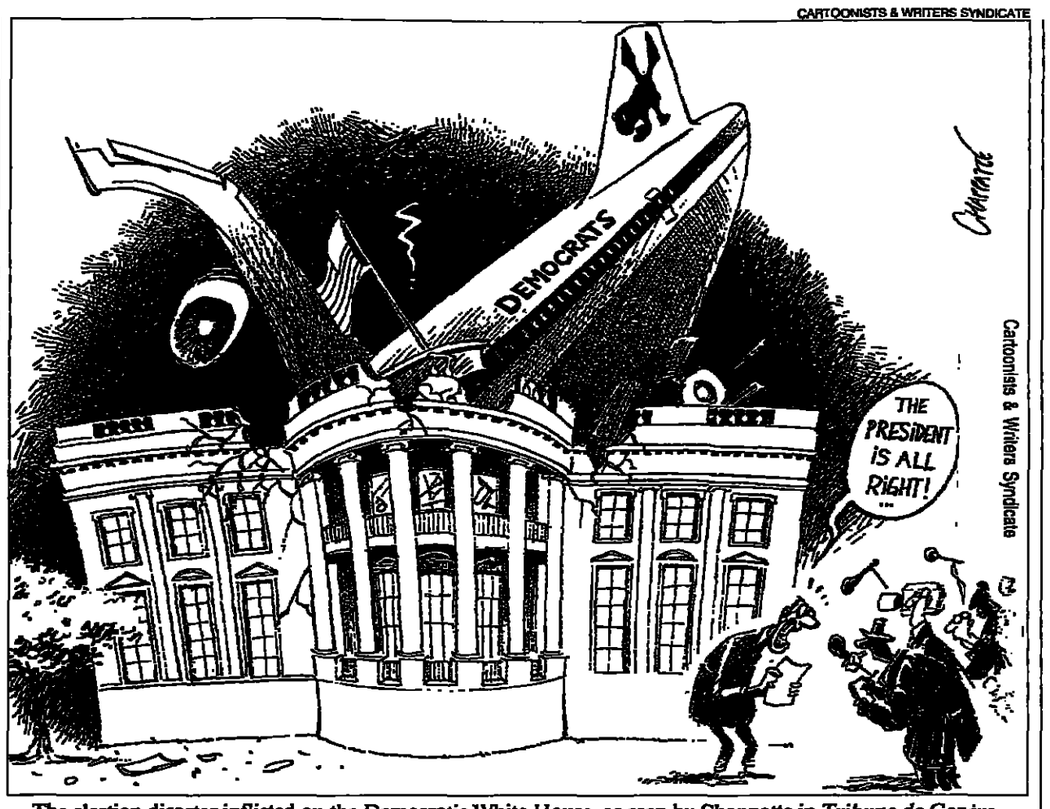
Despite his scathing criticism of senior party officials, Señor Ruiz said that Señor Zedillo and the outgoing President, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, had supported him.

That confirms speculation that has built up all year of a vicious struggle within the PRI between the "dinosaurs" — old-time hardliners who traditionally have controlled the country's power structure — and a reformist current, led by young, American-educated economists and technocrats.

The assassinated Colosio and Ruiz Massieu were regarded as moderates. But observers question the way moderate PRI leaders, including Señor Salinas, have failed to pursue the murder investigations.



Zedillo: party leaders accused of cover-up



The election disaster inflicted on the Democratic White House, as seen by Chappatte in *Tribune de Genève*

Crippled party searches for a saviour

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE whispered insinuations began in the immediate wake of the Democrats' election debacle, but in recent days they have grown in volume to pose a disconcerting question: Should Bill Clinton be challenged for his party's presidential nomination in 1996?

Democratic leaders concede that the Republicans' capture of the House and Senate nearly three weeks ago was greatly aided by an anti-Clinton mood among voters. The worry now is that this antagonism towards the President will drag the party down even further in 1996, resulting in the loss of many more seats and the White House.

Much can happen in two years and Mr Clinton prides himself on being the Comeback Kid, but so far he and his aides have seemed at a loss to chart a path out of the rubble of defeat.

The first substantial public expression of Mr Clinton's weakness was a frontpage article this week in *The New York Times* by R.W. Apple Jr, the paper's senior Washington correspondent, under the headline: "Clinton's Grip on '96 Ticket Not So Sure". It quoted a White House aide as saying the question was not if the President expected a challenge, but when and from whom.

The debate was fuelled by a sympathetic profile in the *New Yorker* magazine on the dilemma of Al Gore, the Vice-President. It portrays him as having spent his life preparing for the presidency and asks whether there is still time for him to save his party and himself.

Despite his stolid image, Mr Gore has a large following among moderate Democrats, many of whom wish he had led the ticket in 1992. Mr Gore will not run unless Mr Clinton declines. A voluntary withdrawal by the President would not be unprecedented but, if recent history is any guide, a strong challenge would be needed from within the party to convince him that he should go.

One man who could force the issue in the primaries is Paul Tsongas. In this scenario, Mr Tsongas would expose Mr Clinton's fallibility at the polls, forcing the President to withdraw and enabling Mr Gore to step forward honourably.

Big-time US surfers beat up amateur

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

CATCH a wave, the Beach Boys chanted, and you're sitting on top of the world. However, the last time Richard Ernsdorf caught a wave he was beaten up by surfers and left bleeding on Malibu's legendary Surfrider Beach.

His alleged assailants, world-ranking professional surfer Lance Hookano, of Hawaii, and Joseph Tudor, the father of another professional, are being sought by police after warrants for their arrest were issued last week.

The incident, triggered by Mr Ernsdorf's refusal to leave the water during an official contest in September, has brought to a head a 30-year struggle between amateurs and sponsored professionals in which nothing less than the soul of modern surfing is at stake, according to surf historians.

Sandbars between Malibu pier and Surfrider Beach generate the perfect four-foot waves, where Tom Blake tried out the first longboard in 1926. Sixties films such as *Endless Summer* made surfing a cult and Malibu its most sacred shrine, but ever since Mickey Dora outraged judges by baring his buttocks, this shrine has also been a cultural battle ground.

Bill Brown, a veteran surfer, wrote in the *Los Angeles Times*: "Professional surfing has created money-hungry surfers who have lost sight of what the sport is about."

Mr Ernsdorf appears to have drifted into a legal eddy that will dog surfing until estate agents find a way of selling the sea. As Rick Fignetti, of Huntington Beach, observed: "Realistically, nobody owns the ocean."

Charm at bedside delivers doctors from clutches of law

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THE American doctor James Little believed "the first qualification for a physician is hopefulness"; the second, it seems, is charm.

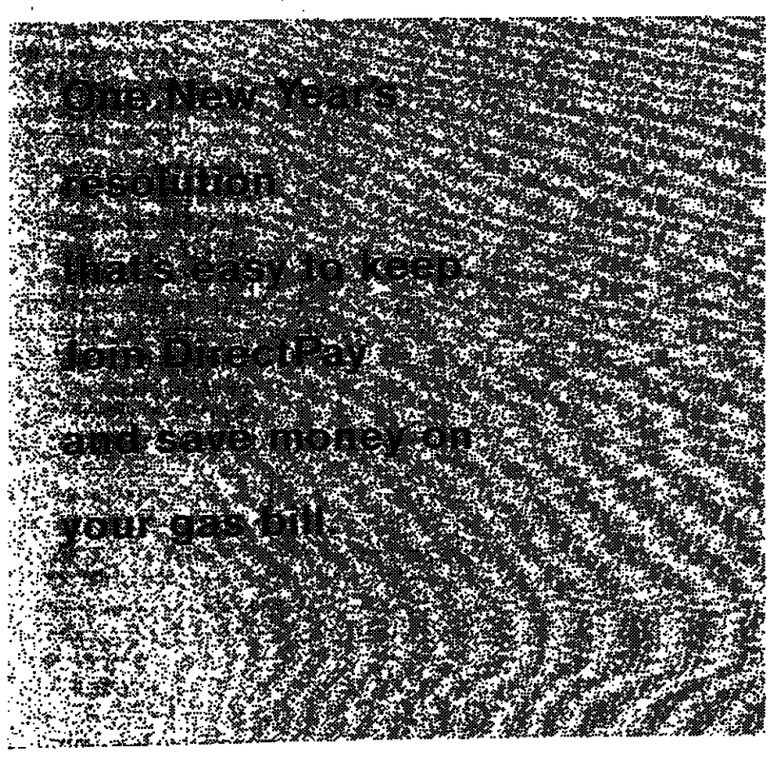
In the litigious world of American medicine, doctors are finding that unless they work on their "interpersonal skills" and develop a sufficiently jolly bedside manner they are likely to be sued.

Two studies in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* show that doctors who are rude, abrupt or dismissive are prime targets for malpractice suits, regardless of the quality of their medical care. Even good physicians can find themselves on the receiving end of a writ if their manners are bad, according to surveys carried out by doctors at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

Dr. Sidney Wolfe, of the Public Citizen Health Research Group, summarised the results: "A doctor can't get away with being a technical whiz and an interpersonal jerk."

The researchers studied 963 obstetric cases to find out what makes a patient sue. The results were definitive: doctors who were insolent, inattentive or hurried suffered a far higher level of malpractice claims, even if their medical records were excellent. The studies found that there was no difference in the level of care provided by doctors who had been sued and those who had not. "These studies show that a doctor might not have done anything wrong but generated enough misunderstanding and anger to provoke a malpractice claim," said Dr Gerald Hickson, one of the authors of the study.

An accompanying editorial in the *Journal* suggested that to prevent American medicine from becoming yet more bogged down in expensive litigation, hospitals should send trainee doctors to medical charm schools. Physician, heal thy attitude.



Although gas prices will be going up from January 1st, you can actually save money by paying your bill using British Gas DirectPay. This is a new tariff whereby anyone who arranges to pay their gas bill by monthly direct debit could be entitled to a discount of around 5% off their gas bill. For an application form and to get 1995 off to a good start phone free on 0500 620 620. British Gas DirectPay.

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Threat of civil war lingers as militants call off Gaza rally

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN GAZA CITY

THE autonomous Gaza Strip pulled back from the brink of a Palestinian civil war yesterday when Islamic militants used the excuse of unseasonally heavy rain to postpone a mass rally. But the root causes threatening an explosion remain distressingly visible.

Because of the weather, much of Gaza had been transformed by its lack of infrastructure into vast reservoirs of murky sewage, often trapping cars more than axle deep. The new pier, optimistically described as part of a project capable of turning the area into a free port on a par with Singapore, had already been broken in half by a combination of lashing waves and third-rate engineering.

Hopes of any lasting solution to the inter-Arab rivalries — almost dashed by despair at the failure of six months of self-rule to do anything but worsen living conditions — are now pinned on a meeting of international aid donors which opens in Brussels early next week.

Yesterday's planned rally had been called as a show of strength by Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, a week after a shootout between militants and Palestinian police loyal to Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader, left 12 Palestinians dead and 200 wounded. Had the rally gone ahead, the surly mood among the young people of Gaza facing unemployment of more than 50 per cent could easily have sparked new violence despite an agreement that Islamic activists would not carry weapons.

In an attempt to lessen the rivalry that had threatened to undermine the Israeli-PLO peace process, the armed police presence near the Palestine Mosque, the main stronghold of Islamic militants, was discreet on the orders of Mr Arafat.

Nabil Abu Rodina, one of the PLO chief's senior aides, did not hide his relief at the postponement when he announced the Hamas decision. He said: "President Arafat was informed this morning when he returned from Spain. Maybe the rain from Spain has brought some good news. We had given permission for the rally to proceed, but they decided the weather was not good enough. Our main interest is to try to bring lasting peace here."

As Mr Rodina, still unshaven, spoke after an overnight journey with Mr Arafat from Madrid, Israeli-Arab mediators were negotiating in a building near by to try to build the temporary truce between the PLO and Hamas into a more durable agreement.

Among well-armed PLO supporters, who are convinced that members of Hamas are being financed by Iran to stir up trouble over the peace deal, there was a continuing nervousness that could be detected at all levels of society in a bleak area housing 850,000 Palestinians.

"There is still real fear that fighting could break out if one madman on either side presses the trigger and starts a new round of bloodshed," said Abdul, a well-educated Gazan in his late thirties. "Until people have a better life than they had before the peace deal, there will be no end to the trouble here."

The appalling condition of Gaza's roads, many closed by floodwater and sewage and others blocked by mountains of floating rubbish, bore witness to the misery that is boosting the support for those opposed to the peace deal.

Abdul added: "At the start, people were prepared to give it a try. There was a genuine welcome for the Palestinian policemen. But time is running out. Arafat will not delegate authority, so nothing works. He even insists on approving every single application for a new telephone line." Haidar Abdel-Shafi, a founder member of the PLO and one of the negotiators who brokered the temporary truce, accused Mr Arafat of behaving like a dictator and of surrounding himself with cronies unsuited to the task of administration.

In an attempt to cool tempers inflamed by the reappearance of vast swathes of spray-painted graffiti, often hostile to the PLO rather than the departed Israelis, the preacher at the Palestine Mosque — the starting point of last week's clashes — called for a dialogue with all Palestinian groups.

Muhammad Siyam, in a sermon relayed to crowds of bearded youths standing in freezing winds outside, said: "I address the Palestinian public in general and the Islamic movement in particular. Despite the wounds, despite the pain, despite the bloodshed, you are asked to be patient. You are asked to obey your leadership."

In contrast with last Friday's fighting, thousands of worshippers left the mosque peacefully, most to return to miserable homes. Because of lack of heating, many Gazans had lit pathetic wood fires in the streets around which they gathered to debate the present crisis.

To mitigate the bitterness, the United Nations will propose an emergency aid package in Brussels. It will include an immediate, huge public works project to create 20,000 jobs in an attempt to restore investor confidence.

UN officials have been critical of donors who pledged to spend $700 million (£450 million) for this year alone, but have so far sent less than $150 million. "If we evaluate the donor effort up to now, it is a complete failure, and it is a dangerous failure," said Terje Larsen, the senior UN official based in Gaza.

☐ **Beirut:** Eight Palestinians were killed and 15 wounded yesterday in fighting between supporters and opponents of Mr Arafat in Ain el-Hilweh, Lebanon's biggest refugee camp, Palestinian and Lebanese security sources said.

They said fighting erupted before dawn when 400 pro-Arafat guerrillas, reinforced by 150 fighters from Rashidiyyeh camp near the southern port of Tyre, seized six posts manned by about 200 dissidents. The rebels, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Munir Maqdah, won back three of the positions after a day of bitter conflict. *(Reuter)*



Jerusalem: Yitzhak Rabin, above, the Israeli Prime Minister, said yesterday that he opposed the death sentence imposed on a Palestinian guerrilla for a bus bombing which killed six people. "In principle I believe it would be a blunder to carry out a death sentence," Mr Rabin told Israel radio in his first comment on the sentence passed by a military court on Thursday on Said Badarneh, 24, for the April bombing in Hadera, northern Israel. Legal experts have been predicting that the sentence would be overturned on an automatic appeal to a higher court. *(Reuter)*



Tehran on march for Mothers' Day

MORE than 100,000 women march in Tehran to celebrate Mothers' Day and the birthday of Fatima, the Prophet Muhammad's daughter. Several hundred of the marchers in the city's Azadi stadium carried machineguns and the event was marked by the pardoning of 190 women prisoners. But the celebrations were marred in the rest of the country by floods, caused by several days of heavy rain. Tehran radio said yesterday that 10,000 buildings in 19 cities and more than 700 villages in western Iran had been affected. Thousands of acres of farmland were waterlogged in several provinces and rivers in the oil-producing Khuzestan area were overflowing, cutting the main highway to Tehran just north of Ahvaz, the provincial capital. The radio did not mention casualties, but reports on other Iranian media spoke of damage running into millions of pounds in some areas. Half the buildings in Mehran, a border town which was destroyed during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war, were flooded when a river burst, the Irna news agency said. *(Reuter)*

Britain to aid Iran refugees

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BARONESS Chalker of Wallasey, the Overseas Development Minister, will present a cheque for £85,000 next week to a charity looking after Iraqi refugees who have fled President Saddam Hussein's suppression of the marsh Arabs.

The cheque, to be accepted by Emma Nicholson MP on behalf of the charity Amar, is the first of a large sum of emergency aid Britain has decided to offer refugees in Iran after a visit there two weeks ago by the ODA's senior emergency aid adviser.

The visit was the result of an Iranian request to Britain for aid to cope with refugees from Iraq, Azerbaijan and Afghanistan, who now number more than a million. It is the first time Iran, which has had poor relations with Britain for over a decade, has officially sought British aid.

Israelis claim Hezbollah has training camps in Argentina

FROM EVAN DYER IN BUENOS AIRES

MORDECHAI Gur, the Israeli Deputy Defence Minister, has alleged that the Iranian-backed guerrilla group, Hezbollah, has established training and support bases in a lawless border region of Argentina.

Mr Gur told the Knesset that the Iguazu area, where the frontiers of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay meet, was being used for weapons and explosives training by Lebanese militants, and was a fundraising centre for the fundamentalist movement.

There was no official reaction to the charges either from the Argentine Foreign Ministry or from President Menem. But Mr Gur said a state of alert declared in the area this month was a tacit recognition of the existence of Hezbollah bases within Argentina. Buenos Aires has suffered two serious attacks on Jewish targets in the past three years. No one has been charged for either attack but both are generally attributed to Hezbollah. More than 30 people were killed when a suicide bomber destroyed the Israeli Embassy here in March 1992, and nearly 100 died when a car bomb levelled the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association building last July.

Responding to a question from Gideon Saguy, a Labour MP, whether Israel would take action against the bases, Mr Gur told the Knesset: "It's not our custom to state publicly our projects of intervention." Mr Saguy insisted that "the Israeli government must exercise pressure so that the Hezbollah training camps are closed, and the drug traffickers who provide them with funds are imprisoned, along with the arms traffickers".

The Iguazu area has been a notorious centre for smuggling for decades. The Paraguayan city of Ciudad del Este is the principal market where smuggled goods are sold and stolen items, chiefly cars from Argentina and Brazil, are bought and trans-shipped.

Malayan, Korean, Chinese and Lebanese immigrants control much of the business, and there are large Lebanese communities on all three sides of the border. The extensive jungle in the Argentine province of Missiones, just across the Paraná river, is the most obvious area for clandestine training camps.

President Menem says a top Argentine spy is in Lebanon hunting the perpetrators of the July car bomb attack. The President told reporters on his return from a visit to Syria that he had sought help from President Assad in tracking down the bombers.

"At this mo ment, as part of that collaboration, the number two of Side [Argentina's intelligence service] is in Lebanon," he said. *Clarín* newspaper named the spy as Rodrigo Toranzo, head of Side's foreign section, and said he had travelled with Syrian intelligence officers to the Bekaa valley in Lebanon to carry out investigations.

Argentina has still not found any of the perpetrators of the car bomb attack, but President Menem has indicated that all the evidence points towards Iran.

In Asunción, Nazir Ahmad Chamass, the Lebanese Ambassador to Paraguay, denied reports in Buenos Aires newspapers on Thursday that his compatriots were planning an attack on the immense Yacyreta Dam, recently opened by Argentina and Paraguay, its joint owners.



Gur: Argentina tacitly admits bases exist

Nepal in chaos after Communist 'victory'

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

NEPAL has been in political chaos since the general election 11 days ago, which left the Communists with the largest number of parliamentary seats but short of an outright majority.

Man Mohan Adhikary, the Communist leader, who spent 17 years in jail in his fight against absolute monarchy, is claiming the Prime Minister's post. He played a central role in a popular uprising that forced King Birendra to give up most of his powers four years ago, reducing him to a constitutional monarch.

The King remains a popular figure although corruption is suspected among some members of his family. Mr Adhikary's campaign speeches were peppered with old-style Communist rhetoric, but his United Marxist-Leninist Party will not seek the abolition of the royal family if it heads the next government. The party has abandoned much of its traditional ideology and is committed to economic liberalisation. The Communists won 88 seats in the 205-member parliament. The Nepali Congress, which was banned for many years during royal rule, captured 82. The constitution allows the King to choose the Prime Minister; in a hung parliament he can name the leader he believes is best able to form a government. He has asked the leading parties to put their cases in writing.

Mr Adhikary said after meeting King Birendra that he was trying to form a minority government. "I have support from other political groups," he said.

The Communists are seeking tacit support from the Nepali Congress. The two parties worked closely in organising the popular uprising that forced the royal family to relinquish most of its power. The election was called 18 months early after the government of Girija Prasad Koirala, the Prime Minister, collapsed because of internal dissent.

The Nepali Congress was making a last-ditch attempt last night to form a government with the support of smaller parties, including the National Democratic Party, which captured 20 seats. Like the Communists, it has given up much of its ideological base and has pledged allegiance to the democratic reforms.

It has offered to join an all-party coalition, aware that it would enjoy decisive leverage in such an arrangement. "We are in favour of an all party government because that is the mandate," Prakash Chander Lohani, its leader said. "This is what we have told all who have approached us."

The pro-monarchist Rastriya Prajantra Party ruled out a coalition government yesterday by declaring it would not join any coalition with any political party.

Kamal Thapa, the party spokesman, said his party, which increased its parliamentary representation from four in the 1991 elections to 20, had not decided who should form the government.

Whoever King Birendra calls on to form what the Rastriya Prajantra Party decision guaranteed would be a minority government, has to win a majority in the 205-seat assembly in a vote of confidence to be held within 30 days. Who that will be could depend on the Rastriya Prajantra Party, and Mr Thapa said its support would go to whoever offered the best deal. "Who to support and on what conditions would depend on receiving their proposals," he said.

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Relief agencies attack EU over Rwanda aid cut

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

AID agencies accused the European Union yesterday of cynically depriving the new government in Rwanda of funds and said that without a large cash injection the country would return to violence.

Médecins Sans Frontières and Oxfam said in a statement released before a meeting of EU development ministers in Brussels that Europe had "cynically condemned Rwanda to a Catch-22 dilemma".

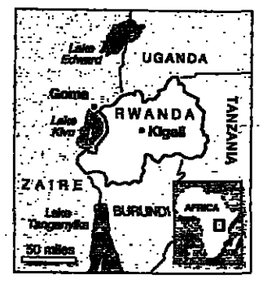
Under pressure from the French government, the EU has refused to release £124 million in aid for Rwanda, where an interim parliament was sworn in yesterday, until the new administration broadens its base. For Paris, that means that Kigali must agree to power-sharing with the regime it deposed in July. But the Rwandan government has ruled out any deals with members of the Republican National Movement for Democracy, which was behind the slaughter of a million people, mainly Tutsis, this year.

"Under EU aid conditions, Rwanda cannot receive EU recovery aid until certain conditions are met, but these conditions will not be met without receiving the necessary aid," the agencies said.

The issue of aid to Rwanda is also shaping into a diplomatic battle between France and Britain. Whitehall sources said yesterday that the British government was "very sad and frustrated" at what one official described as the "starving" of Rwanda's government of financial aid. "What we may find is that, within a few weeks, there may not be a government at all if it does not get help," one source said.

Although Rwanda's government is dominated by the mainly Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), which forced the old Hutu regime out during the genocide that started in April, British officials said they had been impressed by the appointment of Hutu Cabinet ministers.

They also pointed out that recent appointments of regional prefects showed a "genuine desire to broaden local government and encourage the 2.5 million Hutu refugees in Burundi, Tanzania, and Zaire to



return home". A Whitehall official said: "The prefects come from both ethnic groups and from different parties."

The French have refused to do business with the Rwandan government. So far they have only a "cultural attaché" in Kigali, and recently refused to invite the Rwandan government to its African leaders' summit in Biarritz.

At present the Rwandan government's only sources of funds, since the central bank was emptied by soldiers fleeing the RPF advance, are customs duties and revenue from a sale of coffee stocks. There is no police force and the RPF's army, which has never been paid, remains the only security force in a country blighted by ethnic killings and insurgency guerrilla operations mounted by Hutus from the refugee camps.

"To invite known murderers into the government is ridiculous and unacceptable to us, the Rwandan government, and any intelligent person," a British government official working in Rwanda said.

French, and to a lesser extent Belgian, reluctance to help the Rwandan government stems from a belief that Britain and America have extended their influence over Central Africa using the English-speaking RPF, many of whom are former Tutsi refugees from Uganda, as a proxy force.

This week Bernard Debré, the French Co-operation Minister, softened the line from Paris and said he was reviewing policy on Rwanda. In the meantime, the United Nations has appealed for $100 million (£64 million) in aid to be spent inside Rwanda.

But the World Bank is also reluctant to release £160 million set aside for Rwanda until Kigali pays back £6 million arrears on loans, raised by the former regime.

Britain has budgeted £60 million in aid for Rwanda. One official said yesterday that "it would be a tragedy if this were money wasted because the Rwandan government did not get the funds to run itself and there was a return to war".



A Vietnamese girl is escorted by Hong Kong security officers on to a plane for Hanoi yesterday. She was among 70 boat people deported by the colony

Britain splashes out on heating pool in Malawi

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN has paid tens of thousands of pounds to install a heating system in the swimming pool used by the British High Commission in tropical Malawi, and to buy a cottage in the cooler countryside where diplomats can spend weekends, Western sources said yesterday.

The payments come as the Overseas Development Administration — the aid arm of the Foreign Office — is cutting back the number of doctors it sends to Malawi.

The payments on the swimming pool and cottage, which have infuriated Western aid workers in the country, are revealed two months after Malawians complained that the High Commissioner's wife was being paid £200 a day as an adviser to the ODA. The appointment of Kathleen White, the wife of John Martin, the High Commissioner, prompted allegations that well-qualified locals could do the job at a much lower rate.

"The British High Commission in Malawi is like a nuclear bunker. There is great luxury surrounded by poverty and squalor on all sides," a senior Western aid worker said yesterday. "The diplomats have a bar, swimming pool, tennis courts and their cottage on the Zomba plateau, which is a beautiful place to take the air."

The ODA, meanwhile, has decided not to renew the contract for 17 Western doctors in Malawi, according to Western aid sources in Lilongwe, the capital. At the same time, the High Commission employs a GP who has been flown from London and who is being provided with air-conditioned accommodation. "There is a private hospital already in Malawi of Western standard which looks after Westerners, so why do they need a GP?" another aid worker said.

The ODA said it could not confirm exactly how many doctors' contracts were not being renewed. A spokesman said: "Some senior staff in Lilongwe are not having their contracts renewed. This reflects a general change of emphasis ... to move away from giving support in centres of excellence to rural health in the villages." Asked if Western doctors would therefore be moved to rural areas, the spokesman added: "You don't have consultants in the villages."

The Foreign Office said it could not confirm the costs of the cottage or work on the swimming pool. A Government spokesman said: "Yes, there appears to have been some work on the swimming pool. On the holiday cottage, there is something in that but the only person who can answer is in Africa and we cannot contact them today."



Martin: wife paid £200 a day at aid agency

ANC to use 'struggle politics' in offensive on black poverty

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

THE African National Congress, seven months after gaining power on a wave of black expectations, is facing the reality that most of its voters have yet to feel the benefit of any social transformation in South Africa.

A strategy document to be put before a national congress of the ANC next month calls for a dramatic change of direction. The 13-page paper, believed to have been written by Thabo Mbeki, President Mandela's First Deputy, urges the party to have as the centrepiece of its agenda "the all-round political, economic and social emancipation and upliftment of the black majority". The paper has already been discussed and amended by the party national executive and this weekend will be put before the executive committees of its women's and youth leagues.

According to Kaiser Nyatsumba, political correspondent of the Johannesburg *Star* newspaper, who leaked the document yesterday, the ANC will revert to "struggle politics" after months of emphasising reconciliation and reassurance to the white community. Mr Nyatsumba says that the document is careful to emphasise that the ANC should continue to woo minority constituencies. But he adds: "It is clear that the strategic emphasis is to be turned on its head."

Mr Mbeki's document points out that last April's election marked "a decisive but not complete transfer of political power".

He says: "The democratic majority has won only some of the important elements of that power necessary for the advancement of the struggle towards the completion of the current phase of the democratic revolution." The document identifies the black working class, black rural poor and a "significant section of the black middle strata" as the engine for transformation.

† Full details on application. Subject to status.

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Worthy of his higher salary?

Irwin Stelzer weighs up how much executives should be paid

What is man worth? About £1, says the chemist: that's the market price of all the chemicals that make up the human body. Much more, says the surgeon: were there a market, recyclable body organs would probably be worth £100,000. More still, say the directors of British Gas: £475,000 per year, if he is the chief executive of our company.

Nothing is as complicated as determining the proper value of a working man or woman. In part, this is so because those charged with setting remuneration rates think in terms of economics, while those who question the resulting differentials think in terms of equity. Thus, a board will think in terms of meeting international competition, while observers such as letter-writers to this paper use terms such as "fairness" and "greed".

In equal part the problem of determining the "right" compensation of an employee is complicated by the fact that there is no simple, correct answer. What about productivity, you ask? Suppose a coal miner, working hard all day, produces a few measly bags of coal. Transfer that same hard-working miner to a modern pit and his productivity triples. Is he now worth thrice his previous wages? Or should the investor in the capital equipment that made the productivity increase possible be allowed to keep the difference? Or should it be shared somehow? Of such stuff are industrial disputes made.

> 'In the end, there is only one way: look at supply and demand'

But it is executive salaries that grab the headlines, and for two reasons. First, by the standards of average, or even the above-average wage earner, these salaries are high. Thus, when the man on the *Clapham omnibus* wins a £500,000 lottery prize, the television cameras rush to ask *him* how all of his remaining lifetime will be transformed by winning what it will take British Gas's Cedric Brown one year to earn. Second, executive compensation is seen as no different in kind from the pay of the ordinary worker, merely more a regular pay cheque with a few more zeros on it.

But when George Soros made something like £1 billion proving that Britain's membership of the exchange-rate mechanism was an economic nonsense, few begrudged him his winnings. The lack of uproar stemmed from the fact that Mr Soros risked his own money. He could just as easily have lost his bet, as he has several times since.

But executive earners take no such risk. It is rare, indeed, that a chief executive is fired. His company's shareholders are powerless to unseat him, the large institutions could but will not, and his close pals on the board can generally be counted on to blame anything and anyone except the man in charge.

Foreign competition is a particular favourite with executives, because it cuts two ways. It justifies holding the line on ordinary workers' salaries, lest foreign companies gain a cost advantage. And it justifies raising the wages of executives, lest they be lured away by overseas competitors offering better compensation packages.

There is some truth in this dichotomy: skilled executives can indeed sell their services to an increasingly attractive international market, while the unskilled must compete with lower-paid workers in developing industries. So pay differences are widening — which is one reason why the average worker grows more outraged at executive bonuses.

In Japan, for example, the top salary in any company is only a few times the average pay, whereas in Britain and America it can be 20 times as much, or more. And Japan is one of the great industrial success stories of the latter half of this century. Surely, what is good enough for Japanese executives is good enough for their British counterparts.

Not really. For one thing, Japanese culture frowns on job-hopping. This means that a top executive, with a lifetime commitment to his company (and it to him), is unlikely to look for greener pastures. And if he does, potential Japanese employers are likely to view him as a maverick, or worse, and shred his CV. Meanwhile, barriers of language and training will keep most Japanese executives from joining the increasing number of managers whose skills transfer readily across international boundaries.

That is where Britain's bosses have an advantage: if talented, they are hot commodities in high-paying America. Publishing provides a good example. Both of New York's tabloids are edited by British expatriates. So are *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic*, *The National Review* and *The National Interest*.

Of course, an executive's value on the international market depends, in the end, on his record of performance. But how is his "performance" to be defined? By his value to his employers — the shareholders. And that is determined by how much he increases the value of their holdings, either by raising dividends, or by driving the share price up, or both. In a competitive industry, a chief executive can reasonably claim some of the credit for rising earnings and share prices. But Mr Brown cannot: he runs a monopoly and, furthermore, has not had offers to flee these shores.

Tying pay to performance by specific formula is difficult. Share options are one way, and should not be discarded lightly until some superior scheme is developed.

In the end, there is only one way to distinguish the underpaid from the overpaid: look at supply and demand. If there is a shortage of competent teachers, they are underpaid. Pay more, attract more. But if there are several applicants for each opening, pay is too high. That is why MPs' pay should be cut: just as many would vie for each seat if salaries were half what they are now.

Alan Clark argues that the Cabinet resignation threat shows an ignorance of its own party's history

Don't commit mass suicide for spite

The delusion of indispensability afflicts all politicians and, invariably, in arithmetical proportion to the length of their tenure in office. So it is to the complacency which this engenders that we must attribute Kenneth Clarke's "threat" that, if defeated in the House of Commons on Monday evening, the entire Cabinet would resign.

A more detached observer might have anticipated the risk that, faced with this uplifting prospect, a good many people would simply breathe a sigh of relief and respond "Get on with it then".

And a more literate statesman (we must, I suppose, accept the Chancellor's protestation that he does not read books — or even the text of contentious treaties. It is an aversion to the printed word which he shares with his co-pretender to the Premiership, Michael Heseltine) would have been aware, too, of a further risk, well-founded in the history of the Tory Party.

Because it was in October, some years ago, that the mass of Tory backbenchers responding to the mood of the country, the complaints of their associations, and their misgivings about the direction of government, convened a meeting in the Carlton Club. It was here that the MPs decided, in effect, to ditch not their leader, but most of the long-serving and portentous colleagues who were tying them in to this uncongenial policy — and to go their own way.

If they did so it would result in a disaster, they were warned. The party would be hopelessly fragmented. They would be (an habitual prediction) "out of office for a decade".

Ahead of the meeting, the Whips were frantic and, as Lord Beaverbrook, himself an interested observer, has recorded: "Every man's political soul was required of him. Promises and promotions and honours were sprinkled from Downing Street on the green benches as with a hose."

It was to no avail. The old gang — Chamberlain, Balfour, F.E. Smith — were rejected, and a new government came into being. The year was 1922. And from that time on, in perpetual reminder of their ultimate power to retain independence, the weekly meeting of Tory backbenchers is termed The 1922 Committee.

There are two further points that should be noted about Mr Clarke's "threat" of mass suicide.

First, that it is quite literally incredible. There are at least three people in John Major's Cabinet (of whom Clarke is one) who have made no secret of their pretensions. Can anyone seriously believe that in all the panic and commotion that would follow a Government defeat those individuals would not strain every muscle to rally support; to fix things so that they should have the appearance of being "drafted"; to, with the greatest show of reluctance, announce their candidacy "in order to save the party"?

In any case, it is far from certain that the party needs saving. A general election can be allowed by the Sovereign on various grounds — the need to seek endorsement of a change of policy within the life of an existing Parliament being the most respectable.

What quite clearly is not a legitimate motive, though, is sheer spite. Indeed I cannot think of any other instance in history where a Cabinet has asked for a dissolution simply in order to take revenge on its own political colleagues. The only case that must always bring Parliament to a halt (inside its statutory term) is the inability to raise and dispense revenue.

Within the realm that is. The concept that this principle can be stretched to include imposts to some foreign commissariat is ludicrous.

There is absolutely no reason why a new administration could not be formed under a non-controversial figure, untainted by historic blunders, such as (for example) Gillian Shephard, and command the support of enough Conservative MPs to maintain revenue.

And, in any case, to whom were these Secretaries of State going to tender their resignation? To John Major himself? (What a relief that would have been for him, one must reflect, almost enough to cause him to change his mind). Or were they all, simultaneously, to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds?

The alternating mixture of contempt and impatience in which most senior ministers (and all Whips) hold backbenchers is notorious. And it is this — ministers genuinely believe that they are better informed, that their judgment is superior, that their experience is of incalculable value — that underlies much of their frustration.

Nor is it new. Here is J.C.C. Davidson, writing a few months before the Carlton Club Meeting: "There is a high precentage of hard-headed men, mostly on the make... The old-fashioned country gentleman, and even the ranks of the learned professions are scarcely represented at all. I cannot help hoping that the next Parliament will be less full of the modern and, to my mind, unscrupulous characters which (sic) are to be found in the present House."

This is a view which can be found repeated, in moments of irritation, more or less ever since. In fact, though, the social mix of the Conservative Party hardly matters. Its strength is that of an exceptionally resilient political organism. Again and again it has been saved by its innate sense of self-preservation — though often only in the nick of time.

As for the election, concerning which such dire forebodings had been uttered, when the votes are counted the result was:

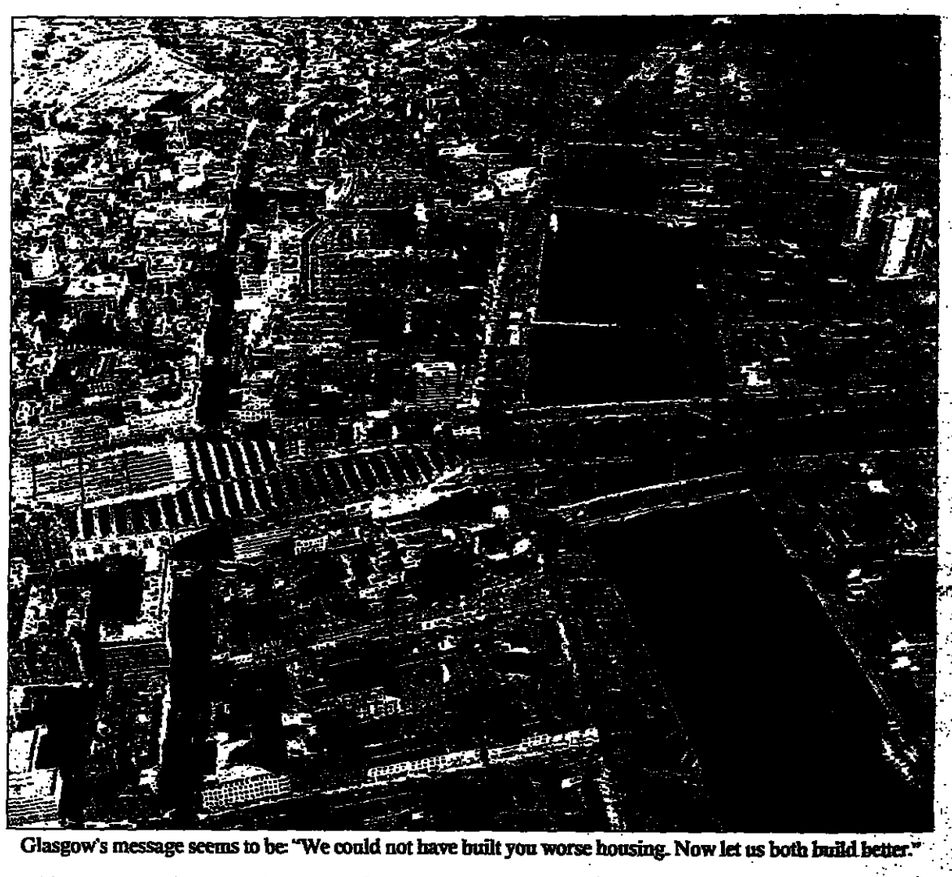
Conservative 344; Labour 138; Liberal 117.

● *Alan Clark is engaged on a history of the Tory Party, 1922-1990.*

Three, three the civic rivals

The fight to host an architecture and design festival in 1999 showed three of our cities in their true, charming colours

Simon Jenkins



Glasgow's message seems to be: "We could not have built you worse housing. Now let us both build better."

London readers of this newspaper were assumed to be on tenterhooks last weekend to know who had won the lottery. Readers in Liverpool, Glasgow and Edinburgh had a different suspense on their minds: which would be venue for the 1999 City of Architecture and Design festival? Their local papers have been filled with little else. What began as a modest award (by the British Arts Council) grew into a fierce, three-cornered fight. Each of the three has spent close to half a million pounds over the past year trying to win the title, despite it being worth just £400,000 in prize money. No corporate headquarters, no Nissan factory, no Trident contract has so galvanised a British city. Only Manchester's Olympics bid comes near it. Michael Heseltine and his "challenge grants" were right. Rivalry breeds civic pride like nothing else.

I must declare an interest as one of the competition judges. All of us were amazed at what it unleashed. Liverpool took a year planning a single presentation. Its people stayed up all night before last month's judging visit, cleaning every street, park and building in the city. Derelict sites were cleared. Advertising boards were filled with welcome posters. Edinburgh was no less determined. Its logo greeted arriving air and rail passengers and was projected onto the floodlit slopes of the castle. Glasgow bathed its stone buildings in night-time lights. They stood out like ships on the Clyde.

I still have trouble conceiving of a Festival of Architecture. You can fill out a year with theatre or dance or music. Buildings do not perform: once built they are fixed. Architecture is the Cinderella art. It must stay home and clean up the mess left by the rest. Liverpool and Glasgow suffered corporal punishment in the 1960s and 1970s. They still bear the welts, suppurating with poverty and crime. Their buildings are flotsam, marking the spring tide of imperial commerce. Banks and building societies rattle about inside some of them, their customers withdrawing five pounds beneath pompous Edwardian murals that once beamed down on millions. How do you make a festival out of that?

The answer is, with imagination. The contest brought vividly to life the contrasting personalities of the three cities. Lovers of Merseyside will not be surprised to learn that Liverpool's bid was a chaotic outpouring of emotion. Police outriders screamed the judges through red lights (I dislike this form of municipal totalitarianism). Dukes, bishops, vice-chancellors, Labour bosses, architects and artists packed St Martin's, the Liver Building, St George's Hall and the Tate of the North to affirm a Merseyside renaissance. A symphony for lights, music and fashion was composed and staged in St George's Hall.

Liverpool's charm is raw and scarred. The city desperately needs to rebuild its self-respect after the humiliations of the Hatton era. Londoners have little idea how crucial stereotype is to life in a provincial city. I recall a Hong Kong magnate choosing between a hotel project on Merseyside or in Canton. "I'd rather gamble on Peking than on Liverpool Labour Party," he said, on the strength of a remembered press cutting. Bucking such an image is hard. Accolades help.

Edinburgh could not have been more different. It is aware of its beauty. While Liverpool was frantically scrubbing its face and patching its blisters, Edinburgh was admiring itself in the mirror. Look, it told the judges, how well the light falls on my profile. Edinburgh is good at festivals. It runs the best annual arts spectacular on earth. Perhaps unwisely, its bid made no connection between this and the proposed year of architecture. It offered elegance, panache, the brilliant illuminating of the Royal Mile and a promise that the future Edinburgh will be as lovely as the past. But I was reminded of Curzon and the viceroyalty of India: Edinburgh would be an honour to the award, the award would not honour Edinburgh. Were it to win, this great city would smile graciously and continue about its business.

Glasgow was no less true to itself. It was canny. There can be few cities outside the communist bloc with so huge a task of self-renewal. The banks of the Clyde are as eerie and still as those of the Mersey. Here is a city that has lost the reason for being where it is: the design and construction of ships. If it did not exist, Glasgow would not be invented.

Yet the city's leaders burn with a conviction that culture can lift a place up by its bootstraps. Glasgow was Europe's "City of Culture" in 1990; a boost to the morale of what then seemed a near hopeless metropolis. In Glasgow, opera, orchestras, art galleries, restored churches, even Booker Prize-winning authors, offer the arts not just as playthings of an aesthetic élite. They put confidence into civic leadership and commerce. They give a city a flag to wave in the face of the world.

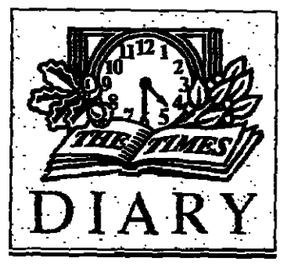
Glasgow's bid was well-calculated. Its buildings, both fine and foul, were left to speak for themselves. They were introduced to the judges as a metaphor of surprise: behind the peeling façade of a Park Crescent townhouse two architects had discovered and restored a gilded Victorian saloon in which a Glasgow magnate had entertained Queen Victoria. Here the judges were amazed to find a candle-lit dinner laid out for them, with the lights of the city spread out beneath the windows.

But Glasgow's coup was a frontal assault on its image. There was no nonsense and no apology. Here is the most and worst high-rise housing in Western Europe. In Gorbals and Castlemilk, in Easterhouses and Reidvale, in 50 other housing association areas, citizens have been brought together and in effect told by the city, "We are sorry for what we did. We could not have built you worse housing. Now let us both build better." Groups of residents were trained to become de facto designers. At a remarkable exhibition, groups showed off the tenement conversions and new estates which they had themselves planned, and asked architects to execute. This was popular design stripped of paternalism or political correctness. By 1999, the process should be on its way to completion. Behind all the festival street parties, the conservation projects, the Millennium Towers and Rennie Mackintosh exhibitions, this was a true celebration of architecture at work.

Glasgow's exhausted bosses can seldom have been so moved as when they heard they had won — and beaten Edinburgh in a straight fight. At a Royal Academy reception last Wednesday they simply burst into tears. I encountered one of them on the Academy stairs, drinking from a bottle of champagne while trying to dial a mobile phone. The losers were no less true to character. Liverpool was lovably maudlin and commenced a wake. Edinburgh was as a woman scorned and stormed off into the night. It was impossible not to wish all could have won.

This is civic pride reborn. But where I wonder was my beloved London? The answer is nowhere. London did not bid. London today is so politically emasculated it could not raise a bid for a cheese sandwich. The lamp of architecture must pass north of the border. Good luck to Glasgow.

Adams's ale



ULSTER IS bracing itself for a long, liquid night. On Wednesday the province will drink to peace. The big breweries have agreed to serve up cheap drinks to kick-start the biggest party in living memory. But saloon-bar politicians are asking: which side of the bar will Gerry Adams be on?

Adams is a former barman and there are hopes that he will be pulling the odd pint of Guinness himself. But his aides assure me that the Sinn Fein President is more likely to be downing the drinks than serving them.

"We don't know exactly what Gerry's schedule will be, but he will want to participate on Wednesday night if he can. He is a Guinness man so he would enjoy a couple of pints." And irrespective of Adams's schedule, the great hope at Sinn Fein's headquarters yesterday was that exploratory talks would not be scheduled for first thing on Thursday morning.

In order to smooth the peace process, Bass, Guinness and Bushmills Whisky, are offering their beverages at £1 a time in nearly all hostelries. Soft drinks, in the unlikely event that they are required, will be free. Adams last earned a living as a barman at the Duke of York pub in the centre of Belfast in the early 1970s.

Little gem

THE PRINCE of Wales was in a reflective frame of mind yesterday at Cambridge University as he opened the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research.

He recalled rather fancying a young girl who sat in front of him at archaeology classes in the 1960s. He admired the girl's long hair during lectures. Appropriately, she was called Kate Pretty and went on to become head of Homerton College, Cambridge.

It wasn't the end of her royal connection either, for she was tutor to Charles's younger brother Edward when he was at Jesus College in the mid-1980s.

● *That musical cricketer, Sir Tim Rice, has turned to domestic chores of late. He is tackling his cricket library — and he is on a sticky wicket by all accounts. "I have around 1,000 cricket books and they needed sorting out. All I've managed so far is to stack them in large piles on a table. It's a mess," he told me despairingly at the launch of David Rayvern Allen's* Arlott, The Authorised Biography.

The bar's open

DOWNING Street has issued a controversial invitation for drinks to the Board of Visitors from Whitemoor high-security prison, an establishment in Cambridgeshire from which a number of IRA inmates escaped this year.

The Christmas party comes only weeks before the planned publication of Sir John Woodcock's report on security lapses, such as the IRA breakout at the jail and finds of Semtex. It has baffled Cambridgeshire councillor, Chris Bennett: "I cannot see what the purpose is of this at all. The board didn't get things changed when they noticed something wrong. Now they are being entertained at Downing Street. It seems strange to me." Penny Lambert, the board's chairman, is unabashed, however. "I see this invitation as a thank-you for the work we put in," she says.

● *His Holiness Pope John Paul II enters the pop charts this week. His recitation of The Rosary in Latin has hit No 1 in Spain. The recording, hot on the heels of his best-selling book,* Crossing the Threshold of Hope, *will be released in Britain on Monday — with an eye on the Christmas market.*



Buck passing

COUNTESS Sokolov, ex-wife of former Tory MP Sir Anthony Buck, caused a political storm and a resignation through her liaison with and Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Harding. Now, there is talk of a new friendship — with journalist Alex Hitchen, the son of *Sunday Express* editor Brian Hitchen.

Hitchen junior interviewed her for a newspaper article and the former Lady Buck was impressed. "I have been to lunch with him and he has asked me to dinner a couple of times but I couldn't make it. I think he is very sweet and very nice," she purrs. "We are just good friends." Hitchen denies anything other than a professional relationship.

Tiptop Tippett

BRITAIN'S best-known living composer, Sir Michael Tippett, is warming up to a series of tributes of his work with something approaching trepidation. His ninetieth birthday on January 2 will be celebrated with a flurry of concerts, most of which he will attend.

Tippett says he will not wear a suit, but will deck himself out in a jacket, bow-tie and American-style sneakers for the occasion.

Worse still, the maestro is unlikely to want to listen. "He does not like undiluted Tippett", explains music critic Meirion Bowen. Sir Michael's long-standing friend and collaborator. "He doesn't enjoy listening to concerts of his own music. He doesn't even like taking the bows at the end. He would really much rather listen to Purcell. But in between these birthday concerts he is at least travelling to Dubai and Sri Lanka."



Sir Michael Tippett: birthday bow-tie and American sneakers

P·H·S

CLAUSE FORWARD

Labour has been working while Tories have been sniping

While the Conservative Party has been publicly imploding this week, Labour has been happy to watch the show. Even Tony Blair's attack on the Government at Prime Minister's question time on Thursday could not compete with the havoc wreaked from John Major's own backbenches. But the Opposition has not been idle; it is getting on with its business. Today *The Times* reveals Mr Blair's ideas for the replacement of Clause Four of the party's constitution. If adopted, they would be another milestone in the movement of Labour from democratic socialism to social democracy.

There are no rational arguments for retaining Clause Four; it is neither a complete nor even an accurate description of Labour's aims and values. Common ownership is not an end in itself. In 1917, when the clause was drafted, it might have been thought to be the means to an end: some believed that it led to greater economic efficiency, others to increased social justice. Nobody now can seriously claim that monolithic nationalised industries have either been more efficient or have given the citizens of Britain greater control over their lives.

Clause Four's replacement, therefore, needs both to correct the economic analysis of its predecessor and to describe what else Labour wants to achieve beyond the management of the economy. On the correction of Clause Four's wrongheadedness, Mr Blair can expect a fight. His document will say that Labour stands for a competitive market economy with a strong private sector. The role of public ownership will be downgraded to "essential" public services, such as health and education. And regulation will be deemed often to be a better solution than ownership. This will undoubtedly antagonise the Left — but any formulation that did not do so would be a failure.

The Left will also be angry about what has been left out. There is no mention of full employment or the right to work, although there is plenty of talk about expanding opportunities. The section on equality can hardly be interpreted as a red-blooded assault on the rich. It emphasises equality of opportunity over equality of outcome and believes that "rewards should reflect merit and hard work, not the luck of birth". The role of trade unions as collective organisations is acknowledged, but they are also expected to be democratic.

The most modern sections deal with the environment, opportunity and responsibility. The document applauds people's desire for their children to have better opportunities than themselves and acknowledges that "the aspiration for a better life has driven social and economic change throughout this century" — a perfectly correct interpretation, but one that would not have passed the lips of a Labour politician ten years ago. And the passage on responsibility reflects much of the new civic thinking on both sides of the Atlantic. "Freedom and rights have to be balanced by duties and responsibilities . . . Responsibility means the duty to give as well as to take, to help others as well as to help oneself."

Could this document sit easily on the desk of a One Nation Tory? Its emphasis is different; there is no praise for low inflation, deregulation or strong defence. And like all such documents, it suggests little about how its aims are to be achieved. But at least it is a summary of aims and concerns that many Conservatives could share. Under Mr Blair, the two parties may have different priorities: but they are no longer fighting wholly different battles.

rivals



A BETTER BHUTTO

Pakistan's Prime Minister has learnt from her troubles

John Major's problems must seem trifling to Benazir Bhutto. As the female prime minister of a Muslim country, she is used to grappling with menaces more muscular than recalcitrant backbenchers. It is over a year since Miss Bhutto was re-elected, and she arrives in London tomorrow on an official visit with more to show for her second term in office than her first. She is a better politician than she was the last time, more cautious and — naturally for her own survival — more Pakistani in her political methods. In particular she is ready to work with the grain of Pakistan's powerful and to avoid antagonising Pakistan's powerful military establishment.

But Miss Bhutto is also providing Pakistan with more effective government. She has not entirely set to one side the more liberal aspects of her political philosophy. She is actively crusading for legal reforms to eliminate discrimination against women, and her forthright speech in favour of family planning at the Cairo population conference earned her well-deserved international applause. Both stances are courageous in terms of Pakistan's turbulent domestic politics. But her main message to Mr Major and British industry will be that Pakistan is finally embarked on difficult, long shirked, economic reforms.

Her government has cut the budget deficit, reduced domestic borrowing, passed laws on privatisation and begun to liberalise Pakistan's heavily regulated economy. The country is attracting more foreign investment than for years, and important new contracts will be signed while she is in London. Military expenditure is still unacceptably high, and corruption an acknowledged reality about which little has been done. But Miss Bhutto has to work within a political structure which traditionally has been dominated by personalities, not programmes. Her reforms may be only a beginning, but they mark a shift away from policies which have either been crudely populist, or calculated to appeal to such powerful interests as Pakistan's small but vocal Islamic parties.

Mrs Bhutto's own Pakistan People's Party is little more than a clutch of special interests; but so is virtually every other party in the country, including the main opposition Muslim League of the former prime minister, Nawaz Sharif. That is partly due to the dominance of the army in Pakistan's post-independence history, which has hindered the development of parliament, political parties, independent courts and other civic institutions. Now formally back in the barracks, the army still has the unwritten power to veto projects and legislation which are not to its taste.

The need to keep the army happy is some explanation for Pakistan's high defence spending, its continued ambiguity about its nuclear status, and Miss Bhutto's less than successful campaign to bring more international pressure to bear on India to vacate Kashmir. Mr Major should press the case for direct talks between the two countries, but he will find Miss Bhutto bitter about what she perceives as international complacency about India's abuse of emergency laws and violations of human rights in the disputed territory. He should certainly press Miss Bhutto on ending Pakistan's covert military support to Kashmiri separatists.

Britain could also offer to assist Pakistan, which is still home to more than two million Afghan refugees, to broker a regional solution to the stubborn and horrendous Afghan civil war. Miss Bhutto has a case when she says that far too little is being done to rebuild people's lives in the parts of Afghanistan where there is no fighting. Pakistan has a claim to be heard as a peacemaker: it has 10,000 soldiers deployed in peacekeeping operations from Somalia to former Yugoslavia. In Miss Bhutto, Pakistan has an advocate for moderate Islam: such voices should be encouraged, and listened to with respect.

OLD SPHINX, NEW RIDDLE

Man lives by ancient mysteries and games of guess-my-age



The Sphinx may be thousands of years older than we have supposed. The basis of this theory — discussed on page 11 today — is that the rounded weathering pattern on the great creature was caused by rain: since ancient Egypt was no more known for mackintoshes than Cairo is today, the stone, it is said, must have been quarried in an earlier and wetter age. There may thus have been a sphinx-building civilisation of the Nile somewhere between 5,000 and 7,000 BC, the time when primitive Egyptians were supposed to be living in reed huts and learning to sail boats, when Stonehenge had several millennia of Ancient British public inquiries to drag through and the big stone age builders were to be found only in such superpowers of the time as Mesopotamia and Anatolia.

But wait. This convulsion of chronology comes two months after a claim by different archaeologists that the Sphinx is a thousand years younger than its former dating. A year ago the politically correct "Black Sphinx" theory declared that the enduring beast had its nose shot off to destroy evidence that the Pharaoh Khafre (Cephren), the supposed model for his portrait statue, had a negroid nose.

Should we care? The Rev A. W. Spooner, who was once moved to describe the Sphinx as the Minx by Spoonlight, would probably have said no. For modern travellers the bigger shock of the Sphinx is to find it in a Cairo suburb: the bigger dating question is the age of the taxi taking you to the post-card sellers: the hardest riddle is how to photograph it without including the coaches.

The oldest recorded riddle of the Sphinx was too easy even for the revived *University Challenge*. "What is it that has one voice and yet goes first on four legs, then on two legs, and finally on three legs?" Oedipus needed no clue from Creon, the Jeremy Paxman of ancient Thebes, to get that one right — and not much good it did him. But by then, according to this latest theory, the Sphinx was already 5,000 years old and had changed sex from male to female.

One of the instincts that the Sphinx most certainly represents is man's primeval urge to outlast the waste of time. From the Great Zimbabwe to Angkor Wat, man's first ambition as soon as he has clambed down from the trees and got up on his hind legs has been to build something to last. By careful renewal of our species, and with a little luck, man may yet last longer than the eroding Sphinx. But it would never do to wipe the smile off the face of the Sphinx by telling him that. His function is to ask riddles, provoke wonder, and inscrutably umpire guess-my-age games. He has evidently lost none of his ancient mystery.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Better off under a new gas regime?

From Mr Patrick Heren

Sir, British Gas has been a plc for eight years. Its share of the industrial and commercial markets has been steadily diminishing since 1989, and in the Queen's Speech (report, November 17) the Government announced it would legislate to abolish the company's statutory monopoly in the domestic retail market. By the end of 1998 the 18 million households now served by British Gas will be able to choose from several suppliers.

In other words, British Gas is no longer "the gas board" — a fact which seems to have escaped the attention of many politicians and journalists. Their demands that the gas regulator should intervene to limit executive pay rises at British Gas show that the old British weakness for meddling in our energy industries continues to thrive.

Over the last fifty years, this country has paid an enormous price, in government subvention, diminished competitiveness and the unnecessary distortion of its political fabric, for public control of energy. We have paid untold billions to keep men underground digging coal at twice the world market price, and to develop an uneconomic and inefficient nuclear industry wanted by no one but the scientists, engineers and civil servants involved.

The introduction of competition at all levels of the British gas industry is a daring and imaginative process which goes far beyond anything attempted anywhere else in the world. The signs are that consumers as a whole will be much better off than they are under the present regime, and that the industry as a whole (including British Gas plc) will be more efficient and responsive to consumer needs and market conditions. We should be proud that once again a British industry is leading the world.

Whether or not Cedric Brown and his fellow executive members of the board of British Gas are worth their substantial salaries (letters, November 23) is a matter for shareholders. They will be anxious to see how these men, most of whom were trained in a monopoly utility, cope with the painful transition to full competition. It is worth noting that board members' contracts have been reduced from three years to two (report, November 21).

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK HEREN
(Editor)
European Gas Markets,
Rectory Court, 7 Old Town, SW4.
November 23.

Noisy neighbours

From His Honour Aron Owen

Sir, Your report, "Council uses civil court to end family's terror reign" (November 15), referred to a "rare legal move" pioneered by Hackney Borough Council and "believed to be the first such action by a local authority".

However, when I sat as the resident judge at Clerkenwell County Court I made, in the course of many years on the Bench, numerous eviction orders in proceedings brought by Islington Borough Council.

These were proceedings for possession and injunctions against tenants who had committed serious acts of nuisance and annoyance against adjoining occupiers and neighbours.

In their standard tenancy agreements, Islington council, as landlords, set out a number of conditions whereby the tenant covenants (both for himself and those residing with him) not to commit acts of nuisance or annoyance (which, incidentally, include interference by loud noise) against adjoining occupiers and neighbours.

Local authorities, relying on the breach of such conditions and using the procedures provided under the various housing Acts, give the county court jurisdiction to make orders for possession in such cases.

Councils throughout the land have, from time to time, availed themselves of these statutory provisions to evict bad tenants to the great satisfaction and relief of neighbouring good tenants.

Yours faithfully,
ARON OWEN,
44 Brampton Grove, Hendon, NW4.
November 21.

Race tactics

From Sir Arthur Gold

Sir, How wrong can your leader writer get when, in your leader on the Grand Prix in Adelaide (November 14; also letters, November 15, 16, 18) he writes: "Like runners, drivers try to block pursuers, within the laws".

Impeding or obstructing another runner — International Amateur Athletic Federation, rule 141 — is easily the most frequent reason for disqualification in major athletics competition. Indeed all races up to 400 metres and the first bend of the 800 metres are run in "lanes".

When in 1907 the Royal Automobile Club drew up its rules for motor racing they based them on the rules of the Amateur Athletic Association. Sadly that initial sporting conception would seem to have disappeared from motorised competitions.

Yours truly,
ARTHUR GOLD
(Honorary Life President,
European Athletic Association),
49 Friern Mount Drive,
Whetstone, N20.

Managing stress in the workplace

From Dr J. R. B. Cooper

Sir, The recent High Court ruling (report, November 17: Libby Purves, November 18) on the case of a former social worker who succeeded in a claim against Northumberland County Council for exposing him to stress at work highlights issues which warrant further exploration by both employers and employees. As a doctor working full time in the field of occupational health I am able to see both sides of the problem.

Everyone has a breaking point, but that is at a different level for different people: what is stressful for one may be excitement for another. Unlike computers people have to be managed in different ways.

Much stress in the workplace is organisational: treating the symptoms is less effective than treating the cause, which consequently requires the employers' intervention to resolve it.

Much can be done to support and strengthen an employee's mental fitness. Stress-management sessions, ready access to an occupational health nurse and an employee assistance programme can minimise the risk of a nervous breakdown.

People are a company's greatest asset; investing in them as individuals ultimately makes good medical sense and good business sense.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. B. COOPER
(Medical Director, Mobil Europe),
Mobil Oil Company Ltd,
Medical Department, Mobil House,
54/60 Victoria Street, SW1.
November 18.

From Professor Raoul Franklin, FEng

Sir, There was an interesting conjunction in your pages on November 17 of the report on the case relating to stress in employment and the article by Eric Caines (Public Management; also letter, November 21) advocating the use of anxiety as "the most effective motivator" to undermine job security in the public sector as a means of raising performance. Was the one unlawful in the light of the other or merely an aberration?

I would like to believe the latter, and would hope that managers continue to see their role as enabling their fellow workers to achieve their full potential as a result of the confidence in their ability that each has of the other.

The former is a path to a true state of anarchy and all that is implied by that word.

Yours faithfully,
RAOUL N. FRANKLIN
(Vice-Chancellor,
The City University),
20 Myddelton Square, EC1.

From Mr Jim Jefferies

Sir, As an ex-Liverpool police inspector and later security officer for a large brewery company my duties included providing protection for staff and property throughout the North West over a period which included the Toxteth riots, and I still have nightmares about the job, although I left it several years ago.

I feel I must compliment Mr Walker, the social worker whose beaming face smiles at me from the front page of *The Times* this morning, not so much on his successful action as on his apparent excellent recovery from such trauma.

Yours sincerely,
JIM JEFFERIES,
7 Northwich Close,
Thornton, Liverpool.
November 17.

From Mr Peter Cook

Sir, The post-traumatic stress I am now experiencing after reading about a social worker's claim for £200,000 leads me to conclude I may be in a strong position to sue the litigant in question for my rising blood pressure.

Yours faithfully,
PETER COOK,
Loughrigg, 10 The Holme,
Great Broughton,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

Lottery proceeds

From Mr David Robinson

Sir, A just allocation of lottery proceeds would prioritise poor individuals, organisations, and communities. This would make commercial sense. The poor gamble more, and the largest share of the proceeds should be seen to benefit the biggest market.

Such an allocation would also be fair compensation to small charities, which are the only potential beneficiaries expected to lose from the establishment of the lottery — possibly, the National Council of Voluntary Organisations suggest, by as much as £270 million a year.

We should not be embarrassed to acknowledge that prioritising the poor is morally right. There are no other funding bodies, statutory or voluntary, which begin to compare with the size of this one, and the lottery offers a unique opportunity to tackle effectively and extensively some of the problems in our society which impoverish us all.

Prestige projects such as the Tate Gallery's Modern Art Museum (£80 million) and the Royal Opera House improvements (£45 million) have been talking up their bids now for over a year. But do the vast majority of the punters want their "donations" to go to a handful of hugely expensive projects already largely patronised by a privileged minority?

The National Lottery is a national concern. The mechanism for picking the biggest winners must reflect both popular opinion and national interest. The case for bread before jam is, on both counts, undeniable.

Yours etc,
DAVID ROBINSON
(Director), Community Links,
105 Barking Road, Canning Town, E1.

From Mrs J. E. Eyres

Sir, Working today in the British Museum, refurbishing a volume entitled "George Cruikshank's Portraits of Himself", by George Somes Layard (1897), I chanced on the following:

When George Cruikshank [1792-1878] was a boy the State Lottery was a recognised instrument for raising revenue in England, as it is today in less enlightened countries.

Yours faithfully,
JUNE EYRES,
27 Grove Terrace, NW5.
November 23.

Removal of patients

From Dr John Chisholm

Sir, You report (November 18) that more than 80,000 patients are removed from GPs' lists in England each year without being given a reason. The official statistics include the removal of patients who have changed address or have died. There are 26,400 GPs in England and approximately 200 million consultations a year. Therefore the average GP is removing a patient around three times a year.

On November 17 the General Medical Services Committee, the BMA's family doctors' committee, agreed to issue guidance to GPs on this matter. We believe a good doctor-patient relationship is the cornerstone of good patient care, and we therefore defend vigorously the rights of both doctors and patients to terminate a relationship which is not working.

We do not believe that GPs should ever remove patients because of cost: adequate mechanisms exist to enable doctors to obtain an increase in their fund or prescribing budget. It would be equally indefensible to remove patients because they are suffering from a particular clinical condition.

The GMSC's guidance also recommends that GPs should consider writing to patients who are removed from their lists, to explain the reasons. It is a matter of common courtesy to do so, and will avoid any misunderstanding of a doctor's motives.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CHISHOLM
(Joint Deputy Chairman),
General Medical Services Committee,
British Medical Association,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square, WC1.
November 18.

When heads weigh in

From Mr Owen Toller

Sir, Mr R. J. Philo (letter, November 23) seems to think that the Department for Education's league tables are a matter of random sampling. They are nothing of the kind; they do not attempt to form a picture of the whole by looking at a small, representative sample.

Instead, they attempt to create a census — a survey of *all* the relevant population — of the members of a certain school year. Because they are based on calendar age rather than year in the school, they fail to do so.

Even were sampling the aim, to do so by age would certainly not be random: there is no guarantee, for instance, that those pupils in school years above their calendar age are not abler than others. I suggest that it is Mr Philo's mathematical education, and not those of ten distinguished Heads, that is depressing.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN TOLLER
(Chief mathematics master),
Merchant Taylors' School,
Sandy Lodge, Northwood, Middlesex.
November 23.

From Mr David Simons

Sir, Throughout my time at Wyggeston School, Leicester (1952-58), my school reports were largely of the "does no work", "no progress this term", "could do better" variety. In fact I can truly state that the only positive aspects of my reports between ages of 11 and 16 were in height and weight, both of which seemed to improve steadily.

It is good to realise now that grammar school education was not wasted on me.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SIMONS
(Average height and build),
The Old Mill, Calver Road,
Baslow, Derbyshire.

Weekend Money letters, page 39

Letters for publication may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Discord on 'best' composer list

From the Vicar of St John in Bedwardine

Sir, John Higgins, describing the difficulties of picking the eight "best" composers for a forthcoming series of BBC2 documentaries (November 19), selected seven himself (Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky, Wagner). He suggested that the eighth be either Verdi or Puccini.

No one composing prior to the 18th century is included. Each of the selection represents a distinctive style (ruling out, for instance, Haydn, who might be "better" than Tchaikovsky, but just too like Mozart to be considered; as Handel is to Bach). European "serious" music alone appears to count.

The whole exercise has produced an all too predictable and dull result; but the final straw has to be Mr Higgins's suggestion that Verdi or Puccini step up to the Olympian eighth place.

Has the current fad for regarding any opera as a cultural pinnacle really triumphed so completely? Why is it that Classic FM will churn out soundbites from any fourth-rate opera day and night, while so much equally sound-biteable, first-rate music (e.g., our own mere provincials, like Parry, Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Walton, Britten) is so shamefully ignored?

I beg the BBC, from the bottom of my heart, to take the opportunity for educating people not to over-rate 19th century Italian opera. Better stuff has been produced in our own land, but it is unfashionable to say so.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER PULLIN,
St John's Vicarage,
143 Malvern Road,
St John's, Worcester.
November 19.

From Mr H. Mitchell

Sir, I agree with John Higgins's selection of the first seven. I am astonished, however, by his view that the choice for eighth place should lie between Verdi and Puccini.

Nowhere does Mr Higgins mention the name of Brahms, the inheritor of Beethoven's mantle and unquestionably a qualifier for inclusion among the eight; and surely Berlioz, Sibelius, Mahler, Verdi, Prokofiev and Shostakovitch should have a higher ranking than Puccini, with Elgar and Britten ranking as at least his equals.

Yours sincerely,
H. MITCHELL,
The Mount, Brook Street,
Great Bedwyn,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.
November 19.

From Mr Montague Keen

Sir, I note that John Higgins (may he spend 10,000 years on a desert island with the complete works of Stockhausen) presumes to promote the claims of the second-rate, meretricious Stravinsky, and even of the inharmonious Britten, to places in BBC2's projected hierarchy.

Bernard Levin gave us the definitive list of "Superstars" in your issue of April 21, 1981, in the form of a musical football team: Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven, Bach, Haydn, Wagner, Handel, Bruckner, Sibelius, Mahler and Berlioz. "No Verdi, you note," he commented, "and no Brahms" (although he later appears to squeeze Brahms in).

Admittedly, Britten was then rated eighth in what Mr Levin called the "First Division", perhaps as a patriotic genuflexion; but for Mr Higgins to include Stravinsky, at the expense of the infinitely superior Brahms, can be explained only by the fact that Stravinsky wrote more letters to *The Times* than did the rest of the hierarchy put together.

Yours sincerely,
MONTAGUE KEEN,
School Barn Farm,
Pentlow, Sudbury, Suffolk.
November 20.

From Mr Timothy Keyte

Sir, Will not the BBC's proposed inclusion of Wagner, Tchaikovsky *and* Mahler mean a disproportionate amount of late-Romantic high drama? The more restrained Brahms remains no less a staple of the repertoire than any of those three, and with very good reason: he both satisfies the sophisticates and provides tunes for the errand-boys.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY KEYTE,
Meadow End, Cold Ash,
Newbury, Berkshire.
November 20.

Stoking up

From Mr Robert Garnier

Sir, Our weathermen tell us that this could be the warmest November for 50 years (report, November 22) and a television presenter recently suggested that this could herald a particularly mild, wet and stormy winter.

I prefer to believe my senior cat, who, notwithstanding regular deworming, is stoking up as never before to put on body fat and the thickest coat imaginable. Today he weighed in at 17 lb and winked knowingly when I asked him if January would be very cold.

Michael Fish, please note.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT GARNIER,
Beecroft, Wooton, Canterbury, Kent.
November 22.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 25: By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) called upon the Governor-General of Solomon Islands and Mrs Pitakaka this morning at the Royal Horseguards Hotel, Whitehall Court, London SW1, and, on behalf of Her Majesty, welcomed Their Excellencies on their Arrival in this Country.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 25: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited *HMS Ark Royal* at Portsmouth.

The Lady Margaret Colville, Sir Alastair Aird and Major Colin Burgess were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 25: The Prince of Wales today visited Cambridge and was received by the Lord-Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden).

His Royal Highness this morning attended a Reception at Robinson College and met students supported by the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon opened the new McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Downing Street.

His Royal Highness later visited the Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street. Mr Matthew Butler was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 25: The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires) this evening attended the Officers' Club Regimental Dinner at Haberdashers' Hall, Staining Lane, London EC2. Miss Anne Beckwith Smith was in attendance.

Dinners

Assistant Commissioners' Mess
Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, presided at the annual dinner of the Assistant Commissioners' Mess held last night at New Scotland Yard.

Cricket Society
Mr Justice Popplewell and Mr Henry Kelly were the speakers at a dinner of the Cricket Society held last night at Lord's. Mr Hubert Doggart presided.

Bishopsgate Institute
The Bishopsgate Foundation held a dinner on November 23 at Crosby Hall, Chelsea, by invitation of Mr and Mrs Christopher Moran to mark the centenary of the Bishopsgate Institute. Mr Geoffrey Ince, Chairman of the Foundation, and Mr Moran were the speakers. Music was provided by members of the English National Opera.

English-Speaking Union
Sir Nicholas Henderson was the speaker at a dinner given by the Oxfordshire branch of the English-Speaking Union in Oxford last night. Mrs Olive Leslie, branch chairman, presided.

English-Speaking Union
Mr J. Sinclair Armstrong, President of the English-Speaking Union of the United States, was guest speaker at the annual American Thanksgiving dinner of the ESU Hereford and Worcester branch held last night in Malvern. Mr George Pushman, branch chairman, presided.

Old Latymerians
Mr J.S. Creasey presided at the annual dinner of the Old Latymerian Association held last night at Latymer Upper School. Sir Roger Moate, MP, Mr C. Diggory and Mr J.C. Collingwood spoke.

Receptions

HM Government
Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, QC, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, was host yesterday at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government in Edinburgh Castle for GP Fundholders.

HM Government
Sir Hector Monro, Minister for Sport at the Scottish Office, was host yesterday at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government at 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, to mark the presentation of Sportsmatch awards.

British Safety Council
Dr Douglas Latto, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the British Safety Council, was the host at a reception held yesterday at Goldsmiths' Hall for the presentation of the council's Sword of Honour.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Sir James Ware, antiquary, Dublin, 1594; William Derham, theologian, Stoulton, Worcester, 1657; William Cowper, poet, Great Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, 1731; Georg Forster, explorer, Nassenhuben, Poland, 1754; William Armstrong, Baron Armstrong, inventor, Newcastle, 1810; John Alexander Newlands, chemist, London, 1837; Sir Henry Coward, musician, Liverpool, 1849; Sir Aurel Stein, archaeologist, Budapest, 1862; Emlyn Williams, actor, Mostyn, Clwyd, 1905; Pat Phoenix, actress, Galway, Ireland, 1923.

DEATHS: Nicolaus Steno, geologist, Schwerin, Germany, 1686; John Elwes, miser, Marcham, Berkshire, 1789; John McAdam, inventor of the road surface of that name, Moffat, Dumfriesshire, 1836; Adam Mickiewicz, poet, Istanbul, 1855; George Dobson, zoologist, West Malling, Kent, 1895; Coventry Patmore, poet, Lymington, Hampshire, 1896; Sir Leander Jameson, leader of the abortive raid into the Transvaal, London, 1917; Tommy Dorsey, trombonist and band leader, Greenwich, Connecticut, 1956; Cyril Connolly, critic, London, 1974.

More than 8,000 people perished and the first Eddystone lighthouse was destroyed in the 'Great Storm'; among the dead was its designer, Henry Winstanley, 1703.

President Charles de Gaulle opened the world's first tidal power station in Brittany, 1966.

The Brinks-Mat security warehouse at Heathrow Airport was broken into and £25 million of gold bullion stolen, 1983.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Anders Celsius, astronomer, inventor of the thermometer, Uppsala, Sweden, 1701; Robert Lowth, clergyman, Winchester, 1710; John Murray, publisher, London, 1778; Fanny Kemble, actress, London, 1809; Sir Charles Sherrington, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1932, London, 1857; Juho Paasikivi, President of Finland 1946-56, Tampere, 1870; Chaim Weizmann, biochemist, 1st President of Israel 1949-52, Motol, Russia, 1874; Jimi Hendrix, rock guitarist, Seattle, Washington, 1942.

DEATHS: Horace, Quintus Horatius Flaccus, Roman poet, 8 BC; Jacopo Sansovino, sculptor, Venice, 1570; Sir John Eliot, parliamentarian, London, 1632; Andrew Meikle, agricultural engineer, Dunbar, 1811; Alexander Dumas the Younger, dramatist and poet, Paris, 1895; Tom Walls, actor-producer, Ewell, Surrey, 1949; Eugene O'Neill, dramatist, Nobel laureate 1936, Boston, Massachusetts, 1953; Arthur Honegger, composer, Paris, 1955.

William Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway, 1582.

Two policewomen, the first to be granted official status in Britain, reported for duty at Grantham, Lincolnshire, 1914.

President Charles de Gaulle refused Britain entry into the Common Market, 1967.

Armed Forces operational honours list

Northern Ireland

Awards for October 1 1993 to September 30 1994

Order of the British Empire (Military Division)

Commander (CBE)
Brig A S H Irwin OBE, Late Black Watch

Officer (OBE)
Lt-Col E T Bolitho, Gren Gds; Lt-Col T W Hambrook, MBE, Devon and Dorset Regt; Lt-Col J M W Moody, R Irish Regt; Lt-Col S H P Sanderson, MBE, R Regt of Fsrs; Lt-Col (now Col) J H T Short, 9th/12th R Lancers; Lt-Col S D Young MBE, Devon and Dorset Regt.

Member (MBE)
Cpl P A Beck, RE; Sqn Ldr J A Colgate, RAF; Maj N J R Davies, Gren Grds; WO P J Day, R Corps of Sigs; Maj P A W Edwards, Army Air Corps; Maj A D Farrow, R Logist Corps; Capt (Acting Maj) J A G Fenton, R Irish Regt; Maj N R H Fox, Int Corps; Cpl S T Hamilton, Adjt Gen's Corps (PRO); Capt J R Hockenhull, Int Corps; Sgt D L Hughes, Para Regt; Staff Sgt S A Knight, R Corps of Sigs; WO1 J K V Lloyd, Army Air Corps; Maj A J Loudon, KOSB; Maj J R St D Mackaness, 9th/12th R Lancers; Cpl A W McCaig, KOSB; WO2 J McKay, KOSB; Maj H E McMahon, R Logist Corps; Capt C J Millings, Para Regt; Maj S S Milne, R M; Maj M A D Newman, Princess of Wales's R Regt; Maj G A O'Sullivan QGM, R Logist Corps; Maj C P B Plunket, R Irish Regt; Capt M Salvage, REME; Capt P M Swift, R Logist Corps; WO1 R W Travers, R Logist Corps; Lance Sgt D R Wells, Gren Grds; WO2 E T Wilson, R Grn Jkts.

Military Cross (MC)
Cpl A P Dynes, 9th/12th R Lancers.

Queen's Gallantry Medal (QGM)
L-Cpl W Cuckson, R Logist Corps; Staff Sgt (Acting WO2) A N Joy, R Logist Corps; WO1 R J McLelland, R Logist Corps; Sgt G W Webb, RRA.

Mention in despatches
Sgt D I Adkins, Gren Grds; Gdsman I R Eachus, Gren Gds; Cpl W S J Eakins, R Irish Regt; Cpl J C Foster, KOR Border Regt; Lt G M Green, R M; Pte A C Hawke, Devon and Dorset Regt; L-Cpl D Kinghorn, KOR Border Regt; 2nd Lt H R Legge-Bourke, Welsh Gds; Sgt (Acting Staff Sgt) 9th/12th R Lancers; L-Cpl G B Melton, 9th/12th R Lancers; Sgt D N Milson, 9th/12th R Lancers; Maj J P S Routledge, 9th/12th R Lancers; Cpl R A Stacey, Para Regt; Cpl B A Todd, R Irish Regt; L-Cpl J Walsh, R Irish Regt; Staff Sgt P R Woods, 9th/12th R Lancers; Gdsman S G Wyatt, Gren Gds.

Queen's Commendation for Bravery
L-Cpl L Beazley, R Corps of Sigs; L-Cpl S W Cocking, R Logist Corps; Capt E A Dunn, Adjt Gen's Corps; Staff Sgt A E Evans, Int Corps; Cpl E P Flanagan, R Regt of Fsrs; Cpl M Hurren, R Corps of Sigs; WO2 S Irving, R Logist Corps; Sgt S Lennox, Scots Gds; Pte A L McBay, KOSB; Capt A G J McVey, R Logist Corps; Staff Sgt P A Nicoll, Int Corps; WO2 J M Thompson, Irish Gds.

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service
Flt-Lt A W L Balaam, RAF; Acting Staff Sgt A I Barber, Int Corps; Capt (now Maj) D M Bennett, 9th/12th R Lancers; L-Cpl P Bird, Royal Welch Fsrs; Maj I P Blewett, Devon and Dorset Regt; L-Cpl T E J Brennan, RAMC; Maj C R Clark, RRA; Maj R A B Doak, R Welch Fsrs; WO2 R M Dorney, Gren Gds; Sgt R Gorman, R Corps of Sigs; Lt-Col M J W Grubb, Lt Infy; Maj P J Grogan, R Corps of Sigs; WO2 G D E Hathaway, Int Corps; Capt M T Haverty, R Logist Corps; Pte C W Hill, Devon and Dorset Regt; Capt D K Johnson, RE; L-Cpl A I Jones, R Regt of Fsrs; Capt D F H Jones, Devon and Dorset Regt; Lt-Col R C Lloyd, R Welch Fsrs; Staff Sgt (now WO2) G J Lockhart, AAC; Cpl M Loughrey, RE; WO Marine Eng Artificer C Macleod, RN; Lt S D Marcham, Gren Gds; Capt F D Martin, R Irish Reg; Sgt C D Meadows, RAF; Lt D Moore, R Irish Regt; Maj G M Moynan, KOSB; Staff Sgt K D Oliver, R Regt of Fsrs; Sgt I R Patterson, R Corps of Sigs; Maj (now Lt-Col) P A Pratley MBE, R Corps of Sigs; Capt S N Price, R Welch Fsrs; Gdsmn C S Potley, Gren Gds; Maj A W Sexton, R Regt of Fsrs; Sgt M Spicer, Princess of Wales's R Regt; Cpl D A Whitby, Adjt Gen's Corps; Lt (Actg Capt) J D M Wrench, Gren Gds; Maj D Wroe, Lt Infy.

Royal Red Cross First Class (RRC)
Maj L Bale, QARANC.

Royal Red Cross Second Class (ARRC)
Sgt B A Stormont, QARANC.

Former Republic of Yugoslavia

Awards for November 1993 to April 1994

Order of British Empire (Military Division)

Officer (OBE)
Lt-Col A I Finlayson, Queens' R Lancers; Lt-Col J R Wallace MBE, R Logist Corps; Capt J M M Wilkins, R Fleet Auxy; Lt-Col P Cage, Coldm Gds.

Member (MBE)
Staff Sgt A K Bonney, R Logist Corps; Maj M P Dodson, Highlanders; Capt H R A Eaton, Highlanders; Capt K B Lindsay, King's R Hussars; Sgt M Macrury, R Logist Corps; Capt A A Pollock, Gren Gds; Maj R J M Porter, R Welch Fsrs; Maj M G Tucker, R Australian Regt.

Military Cross (MC)
Capt P J Bassett, RE; Capt A M F Carleton-Smith, R Gn Jkts; L-Sgt D Waterhouse, Coldm Gds.

Queen's Gallantry Medal (QGM)
Sgt (now Staff Sgt) R R Pickford, RE; Lt (Acting Capt) R W Yorke, Coldm Gds.

Mention in Despatches
Sgt N S Crisford, Coldm Gds; Capt S J H Gill, Coldm Gds; Capt D E M Guinness, Coldm Gds; L-Cpl S J May, Gren Gds; Lt G P Phillips, RN; Lt N M Richardson RN.

Queen's Commendation for Bravery
Gdsman G J Andrews, Coldsm Gds; Cpl J M Henry, Lt Dragoons; Cpl L S King, RE.

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service
Cpl P M Impleton, R Logist Corps; Maj A J B Johnston MBE, Coldm Grds; Capt E T Legard, Lt Dragoons; Capt S J Mackenzie, R Logist Corps; Maj the Hon R F D Margesson, Coldm Grds; Maj D J R Martin MBE, R Logist Corps; L-Sgt P W Murray, Gren Grds; CPO Air Eng Artificer (WL) M R Peters, RN; Capt D A Poneskis, Adjt Gen's Corps; Brig J G Reith CBE, late Para Regt; WO1 M A Wright-Jones, R Corps of Sigs.

The following miscellaneous pre-dated and meritorious awards have also been announced:

Officer (OBE)
Lt-Col (now Brig) J R Holmes MC.

Member (MBE)
WO2 (now discharged) D J Playford BEM; Sqn Ldr C D Tingay AFC RAF.

Queen's Gallantry Medal (QGM)
Cpl (now WO2) T MacDonald; Spr T G C Palmer (since deceased); Pte (now discharged) M R Parry; Lt-Col (Now Lt-Gen) H M Rose OBE; L-Cpl (now Sgt) J Wilson.

Mention in Despatches
WO J L Mullen RAF; Sqn Ldr M A Sharp RAF.

BEM
SSgt (now WO2) A Brown MM.

Military Medal
Sgt (now SSgt) M A McGinty BEM.

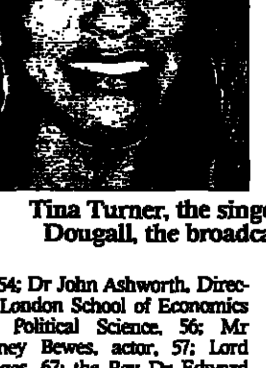
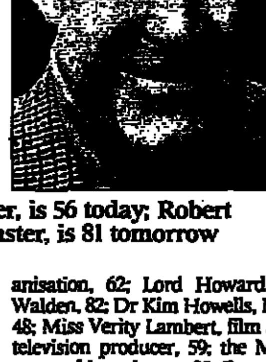
George Medal
Sgt (now discharged) T K Morell.

Distinguished Service Order
Sqn Ldr S O Falla RAF

Distinguished Flying Cross
Flt Lt (now Sqn Ldr) S K P Reynolds RAF.

Misc
Bronze Star Medal (USA)
Brig P A Evans OBE.

Weekend birthdays

Tina Turner, the singer, is 56 today; Robert Dougall, the broadcaster, is 81 tomorrow

Today: Major-General Sir John Acland, 66; Professor Margaret Boden, philosopher and psychologist, 58; Sir Alan Dalton, former chairman, English China Clays, 71; Sir Sidney Eburne, former Senior Crown Agent, 76; Lord Forte, 86; Sir Brian Goswell, partner, Healey and Baker, 59; the Earl of Gowrie, 55; Mr John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, 55; Mr R.W. Hamilton, former Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, 89; Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, former Master, St John's College, Cambridge, 76; the Most Rev Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, 61; the Earl of Lovelace, 43; Mr John McVie, rock guitarist, 49; Lord Moore of Lower Marsh, 57; Sir George Quigley, chairman, Ulster Bank, 65; Miss Joyce Quin, MP, 50; Mr A.A.S. Rae, former chairman, Ciba-Geigy, 69; Mr Charles Schulz, cartoonist, 72; Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, 71; Mrs Barbara Switzer, trade unionist, 54; Mr Keith Vaz, MP, 38; Mr Des Walker, footballer, 29; Mr Norman West, MEP, 59.

Tomorrow: Mr John Alderton, actor, 54; Dr John Ashworth, Director, London School of Economics and Political Science, 56; Mr Rodney Bewes, actor, 57; Lord Bridges, 67; the Rev Dr Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westminster, 84; the Earl of Cottenham, 46; Mr Gavyn Davies, economist, 44; Air Marshal Sir Eric Dunn, 67; Mr James Evans, former chairman, International Thomson Organisation, 62; Lord Howard de Walden, 82; Dr Kim Howells, MP, 48; Miss Verity Lambert, film and television producer, 59; the Marquess of Lansdowne, 82; Baroness Mallalieu, QC, 49; Lord Nickson, 65; Mrs Margaret Parry, former headmistress, Heathfield School, Ascot, 75; Mr Alan Simpson, scriptwriter, 65; Mr Ernie Wise, comedian, 69.

Luncheon

City and Guilds of London Institute
Mr Paul Wates, Chairman of City and Guilds of London Institute, and Dr Nicholas Carey, Director-General, were the hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. Awards of Fellowship of the City and Guilds of London Institute (FCGI) were presented to the following:

Fellowship *Honoris Causa* (HonFCGI): Mr John Baker, Sir Roger de Grey, Mr Raymond Douglas, Mr Charles Fenton, Dr Elizabeth Nelson, Mr Maurice Venn, Mr Paul Wates and *in absentia*, Sir Richard Greenbury and Lady Wilcox.

Fellowship (FCGI): Eur Ing Patrick Fitzpatrick, Professor Julia Higgins, Sir Francis McWilliams, Professor Peter Vaughan, Professor Keith Ward and Mr George Webster.

Church news

Provost of Sheffield
The Rev Canon Michael Sadgrove, Vice-Provost and Precentor of Coventry Cathedral, diocese of Coventry, is to be Provost of Sheffield, diocese of Sheffield, succeeding the Very Rev John Gladwin, Bishop-designate of Guildford.

Service dinners

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment
The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, was the guest of honour at the annual regimental dinner held last night at Haberdashers' Hall. Lieutenant-General A.A. Denison-Smith, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

Cambridge University Royal Naval Unit
The Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire attended the inaugural dinner of the Cambridge University Royal Naval Unit held last night at Peterhouse, Cambridge. Admiral Sir Michael Layard, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, was the guest of honour. Lieutenant-Commander K.J. Broadley, Officer-in-Charge, presided. Among others present were:

The Mayor of Cambridge, the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, the Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Anglia Polytechnic University.

Royal Marines Association
Sir Steuart Pringle was the host at the annual dinner of the City of London branch of the Royal Marines Association held last night at the Royal Marines Reserve Officers' Mess. Major-General J. Hardy, Representative Colonel Commandant, was the guest of honour.

Not Under Command Club
Rear-Admiral J.P. Clarke, Flag Officer Training and Recruiting, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Not Under Command Club held last night in *HMS Osprey*. Commander C.J. Kirwin, acting chairman of the club, presided.

Royal Canadian Armoured Corps
Past and serving officers of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, now living or posted in Europe, held a dinner last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Brigadier General Daryl Dean, Commander Canadian Defence Liaison Staff London, presided.

Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
Lieutenant-General Sir Jeremy Reilly, Colonel of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, was guest of honour at the London area dinner held last night in Balham. Colonel R.M. Wilde presided. The Deputy Lieutenant for Wandsworth was present.

7th Parachute Regiment RHA
Past and present members of 7th Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery held their annual reunion dinner last night at Woolwich. Major-General C.G. Cornock, Honorary Regimental Colonel, was the principal guest.

Society of Merchant Venturers

The following have been elected officers of the Society of Merchant Venturers of the City of Bristol for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr J. Tidmarsh; Senior Warden, Mr J. Avery; Junior Warden, Mr R. Bernays; First Assistant, Mr P. Lucas.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.H. Ellis and Miss S.F. Austin
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Donna Ellis and the late John Ellis, and Sarah, elder daughter of Robert and Rosemary Austin.

Mr A.W. Grant and Miss B.I.H.V. Huntington-Whiteley
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of the late Mr and Mrs Denis Grant, of Bransford Manor, Worcestershire, and Beatrice, daughter of Mr and Mrs Miles Huntington-Whiteley, of London, W14.

Mr J.A. Jackson and Miss S.L. Graham
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of the late Mr Paul Jackson and of Mrs Alison Jackson, of Brisbane, Australia, and Suzanna, daughter of Mr Colin Graham, of Perthshire, and Lady Bruntisfield.

Signor M.V. Landi and Miss A.J. Dickson
The engagement is announced between Marco Valerio, son of Signor and Signora Landi, of Anguillera, Rome, and Amanda, daughter of Mr John Heron Dickson, of Lamas, Norfolk, and Mrs Sheila O'Beney, of the Isle of Mull.

Mr J.T.H. McAlpine and Miss H.A. Baillie
The engagement is announced between James Thomas Hemery, younger son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth McAlpine, of Lamberhurst, Kent, and Heather Alison, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Baillie, of Edinburgh.

Mr W.E. Parker and Miss C.B.M. Bannister
The engagement is announced between William Everett, second son of Mr and Mrs Everett Parker, of Concord, Massachusetts, and Charlotte Bridget Melander, younger daughter of Sir Roger and Lady Bannister.

Mr M. Slater and Miss J. Chadwick
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of the late Bruce Slater and of Mrs Yvonne Slater, of Ashford Carbonel, Ludlow, and Juliet, youngest daughter of Professor Sir Henry and Lady Chadwick, of Oxford.

Mr J.D. Wignall and Miss C.L. Surtees
The engagement is announced between Julian, younger son of Mr and Mrs Donald Wignall, of Shinfield, Berkshire, and Catherine, elder daughter of Major and Mrs Peter Surtees, of Motcombe, Dorset.

Appointment

Mr Nigel Edward Jackson to be joint district judge for the districts of the Bow and Romford County Courts and joint district judge in the District Registry of the High Court at Romford from December 5.

Church services tomorrow

Advent Sunday

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Hosanna to the Son of David (Weelkes), Sumsion in F, Advent Prose, Advent Responsory (Whitburn), The Provost; 4 Advent Procession.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green, 7.40 M; 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Ave gratia plena (Verdonck); 3.30 Advent Carol Service.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Rev B Mountford; 11 S Euch, Spatzenmesse (Mozart), Adam lay y-bounden (Ord), Ven P A Evans; 3.15 Advent Choral Service; 6.30 Compline, Rev P Brett.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30, S Euch, Nun komm der Heiden heiland (Bach), Darke in F, Laetentur coeli (Byrd), Canon R Chapman; 3.30, Advent Carol Service.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 C, The Provost; 11.15 S Euch, Wood in the Phrygian Mode, O salutaris (Elgar), Canon D Knight; 4 Baptism; 6 Advent Procession.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral M, Dyson in F, Canon O Conway; 11.30 Choral Euch, Darke in F; 3.30 Advent Procession & Service; 6.30 Advent Service, Canon J Newcome.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Adam lay y-bounden (Ord), Laetentur coeli (Byrd), Ven M Paget-Wilkes; 3 German Lutherans; 7 Advent Procession.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.15 HC, Messe Solennelle/Chant de paix (Langlais), Canon S Pedley; 3.30 EP; 7 Advent Procession with Carols.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Winchester Litany (Jonathan Harvey), Messe solennelle (Langlais), The Archdeacon; 6.30 Advent Procession.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Mozart in C, Hark the glad sound (Praetorius), Canon B Hebblethwaite; 5.15 Advent Carol Service.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Little organ mass (Haydn), The Dean; 11.15 M, Responses (Byrd), I look from afar, Benedicite in B flat, Benedictus in C (Stanford), Hear O heavens (Humfrey), Rev R Loxley; 3.45 E, Responses (Smith), Hosanna to the son of David (Weelkes), Purcell in G minor, Zion hears the watchmen's voices/Fantasia and Fugue in G minor (Bach).

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), Hosanna to the Son of David (Weelkes), Tantum ergo (de Severac), The Custos; 3.30 E; 6.30 Advent Carol Service.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Mass for Four Voices (Byrd), Canon D Hutton; 3 Advent Procession; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 12.15 H Euch, Ven R Roberts; 9 Euch; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, Hosannna to the Son of David (Weelkes); 3.30 Advent Procession; 6.30 E, Rev Boon-Hor Koo.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 6, Advent Carol Service.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Rev M Johnson; 11.30 M, Responses (Rose), Benedicite in B flat, Jubilate in C (Stanford), V Rev H Dickinson; 3 E, Responses (Rose), Second Service (Byrd), Zion hears her watchmen's voices (Bach), 7 Advent Procession.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Hymn to the Virgin (Britten), Advent Prose (Plainsong), The Provost; 3 EP, Rev Canon R

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), The Truth from above (Vaughan Williams); 5.15 EP; 6 Advent Carol Service.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Locus iste (Bruckner), V Rev R Lewis; 11.30 M, Sumsion in B flat, Britten in C, Sleepers wake (Mendelssohn); 3 E, Dyson in D, And the glory of the Lord (Handel), Rev G Farran; 6 Advent Carol Service.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Neary), Benedicite b flat (Sumsion), The Glory of the Lord (Handel), Canon C Semper; 11.15 Euch, Mass in 5 parts (Byrd), Hosanna to the son of David (Weelkes), Advent prose, Audivi Vocem (Tallis), Rev J Goodall; 3 ES, Gray in F minor, Vox dicentis (Naylor), Rev J Moore; 6.30 Processional service by candlelight.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.30 SM, Mass for 5 voices (Berkeley), Vigilate (Byrd), A hymn of St Columba (Britten); 10 MP; 3.30 V&B, Magnificat octavi toni (plainsong).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.35 M; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis (Kodaly), Canon Morgan; 3.30 E, Responses (Aylewward), Second Service (Leighton); Advent Prose (Lloyd), Wachet auf [illegible]; 6.30 St Swithun's School Advent Service.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Litany (Loosemore), Mass for five voices (Byrd), V Rev R Furnell; 11.30 M, Jackson in G; 4 EP; 6.30 Advent Procession.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Ecce Bone (Tye), Jesus Christ the Apple Tree (Colin Mawby), Rev S Griffiths; 3.30 Carol Service.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Mass for 4 voices/Ave Verum (Byrd), Fr A Richins.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS & HC, The Minister; 10 MS, Gloria in excelsis (Stanford), V Rev A Webster; 11.30 MS, Surge Illuminare (Palestrina), V Rev A Webster; 8 ES, The Rev J Cuthbertson.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8, 11 HC, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Hosanna to the Son of David (Gibbons), The Dean; 8.30 M; 3.15 E, Sumsion in G, De coelo veniet (Handl), Rev C Hill; 6.30 Advent Carol Service.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 8 HC; 9.40 SC; 11 Choral Euch, A matin responsory (Palestrina), Mass for four voices (Byrd), Hosanna to the Son (Gibbons), Rev G Greig; 6.30 Choral E, Naylor in A, Vox dicentis (Naylor), The Provost.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), Vigilate (Byrd), Rev S Hobbs; 6 E&B, The Short Service (Causton), Hosanna to the Son of David (Gibbons), The Vicar.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 C; 11, Rev Dr J Stott; 6.30 Rev C Hobbs.

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev James Schmidt.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11, Missa brevis (Seiber), Canite tuba in Sion/Rorate coeli desuper (Guerrero)

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children; 11 M, Jubilate in C (Ireland), O thou central orb (Wood), Rev P Elvy; 12.15 HC; 6 Advent Carol Service.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, Rt Rev J Simpson, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Creator alme siderum (Praetorius), Dixit Maria (Hassler).

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC, Rev N Gumbel; 11 Informal, Rev S Downham; 5, 7.30 Informal, Rev S Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R J Tudor.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Gibbons (Short), Call to remembrance (Farrant), Preb M Shrewsbury; 6.30 Advent Carol Service.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral Euch, Responses (Sanders), Benedicite (Ashfield), Missa brevis (Walton), Jesus Christ the apple tree (Mawby), Rev D Brown; 6.30 Choral E, Advent Carol Service.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 SM, Benedictus (Gibbons), Benedicite/Rejoice in the Lord alway (Purcell), Rev B McAvoy; 12.30 HC.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev J McIndoe; 3 Scottish Festival Service; 6.30 Advent Service, "Hope", Rev C MacLeod.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Missa Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Fischer) (Bach), Agnus Dei (Bach), Ad te Domine levavi (Hakenberger).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), O for a closer walk with God (Stanford), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Credidi Propter (Lassus), Canite Tuba (Palestrina), Mr D Fisher; 6 Liturgy with Procession.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Rev J Yates; 6 Advent Carol Service.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch & Confirmation, Coll Reg/I would be true (Howells), Rt Rev H Montefiore.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, The Matin Responsory (Palestrina), St Martin's Service (Stringer), Audivi (Taverner), O Salutaris Hostia (Rossini), Rev J Bennett; 11.30 Visitors, Unto thee O Lord lift I up my soul, Responses (Smith), Audivi vocem de coelo (Tallis), The Vicar; 2.45 Chinese, Rev P Kao; 6.30 Advent Carol Service.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 Choral M, Rev F Cecil; 6.30 Advent Carol Service.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Mass Plainsong, Hosanna to the Son of David (Weelkes), Rev D Jones; 6 Advent Carol Service.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Communion Service in A (Darke), O thou the central orb (Wood), The Advent Prose, Rev H Ruschmeyer.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 11, Missa orbis factor, Verbum supernum prodiens, Fr J Younger.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9, LM; 11 SM, Missa a 4 (Byrd), Canite tuba in Sion (Guerrero), Rorate Coeli (Palestrina), Canon C Colven.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Reading), Benedicite (Purcell), Aspiciens a Longe (Handl), Canon J G Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), Canon P Boulton.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M & L, Benedicite (Purcell), Healey Willan fauxbordons, The Litany (Loosemore); 3.30 Advent Carol Service.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Mass for 5 voices (Byrd), Laetentur coeli (Byrd), Toccata in D minor (Dorian) (Bach).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Stanford in C, The Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30; 11.15 HC, Stanford in C, The Creed (Merbecke), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Hosanna to the Son of David (Weelkes), Vox dicentis clama (Naylor), Rev K Joyce; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Turn Thee Again (Attwood), The Lord Bless you and keep you (Rutter), Rev B Hammett.

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The possessor of understanding has wisdom on his lips; a rod is in store for the back of the fool.
Proverbs 10 : 13 (REB)

BIRTHS

BALAZS - On November 16th, in London, to Jennifer Law and John Balazs, a son, Tibor Nicholas, a brother for Kati and Rose.

BELLI - On September 20th, at The John Radcliffe, Oxford, to Louisa (née Adams) and Paul, a son, Thomas Frederick Bruno.

CARTWRIGHT - On 10th November at Nottingham City Hospital, to Deborah (née Savage) and Roger, a daughter, Annabel Faith, a sister for Rosie Joy. With thanks to all staff & doctors.

DJUKIC - On 12th November, to Melissa (née Geddes) and Zoran, a daughter, Jelena, a sister for Natasha.

EKSTEEN - To Elizabeth (née Morel), Jean and Ruth, a bonny (8lbs 6oz) boy and brother, Frederick Douglas, on November 8th 1994. Everyone doing brilliantly.

FOSTER - On November 22nd at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Myfanwy (née Vickers) and Simon, a daughter, Georgina Mary Cecilia.

GAUL - On November 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Simon and Harriett (née Jagger), a daughter, India Louisa Savannah, a sister for Hamilton.

LAW - Jennifer. See Balazs.

LETCHER - On Monday 21st November, to Elaine (née Webb) and Peregrine, a daughter, Eleanor Hannah, a sister for Sarah-Jane.

NEWMAN - On November 24th, to Lucilla (née Thomas-Everard) and Timothy, a son, Nathaniel Christopher Coates.

PARKER-TONG - On 20th November, to James Christopher, a son for Elizabeth and David and a brother for Laura.

SHAW - On November 22nd at The Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, to Maureen (née Morison) and Nigel, a beautiful daughter, Lucasta Elynia, a sister for Olivia.

STELL - On 22nd November, to Jocelyn (née Whyte) and Edward, a daughter, Elizabeth, a sister for Thomas.

TARNAUD - Romain is born at The Portland Hospital on November 21st, beautiful son of Vanina and Rodolphe.

TENNANT - On November 17th, to Fran (née Bedham-Thornhill) and Bill, a son, Jesse Flynn, a brother for Zoe.

DEATHS

BALLARD - Arthur, artist. Died peacefully in North Wales, 25th November 1994.

BATEMAN - On November 22nd, suddenly and peacefully at her mother's home, Serena Alexandra Blaikie, aged 52. Much loved daughter, wife, and mother of Hugh, James and Alexandra. Funeral Service on Tuesday November 29th at St Simon Zelotes Church, Milner Street, Chelsea at 2.30 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

DODD - James, on 23rd November, peacefully with his family, dearly loved husband of Elizabeth, father of Elizabeth, Susan, Helen and Hilary, and a much loved grandfather.

BERRY - On 24th November 1994, peacefully at Castle Douglas Hospital, William Thomas. A dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Ninian's Parish Church, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire, on Tuesday 29th November at 2pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade. Donations and all enquiries to Ian Bendall, Funeral Director, New Market Street, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire. tel: (0556) 503713.

BLANDFORD - Hilde, 25th November 1994, peacefully in her sleep, aged 84. Beloved wife of Heinz for 61 years, loving mother and aunt to Robin, Jill and Monica and their children and sister to Anne Marie. Private family funeral December 1st 1 pm West Herts Crematorium, Garston. Flowers to J. Worley Funeral Directors, 48 Lawn Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

FOSTER - On 24th November 1994, peacefully at Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, Susan, very dearest wife of Tony and beloved mother of Stephen, James and Judy. She had a long hard battle to overcome her illness and maintained her traditional cheerfulness and joy for life throughout. Funeral Wednesday 30th November 12 noon at Mortlake Crematorium, Kew Meadow Path, Townsend Road, Richmond, Surrey. Family flowers only with donations welcomed for The Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o J. Monk & Sons Funeral Directors, 3 Artillery Terrace, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4NL.

LEONARD-WILLIAMS - On November 21st, Air Vice-Marshal Harold Guy, C.B., C.B.E., R.A.F. retired, of Cheddar, Somerset. Dearly loved husband of Catherine, father of Ann, grandfather of Joanna and Philippa. Service at Weston-super-Mare Crematorium on Tuesday November 29th at 2 pm. No flowers by request please. Donations in lieu of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund c/o George Williams Funeral Director, Penn Farm, Redcliffe Street, Cheddar, Somerset tel: (0934) 742958.

LONGMORE - Margaret Laura, peacefully after an illness. Dear mother of Michael. Funeral at Chichester Crematorium at 12 noon Friday 2nd December 1994. Flowers through C.W. Lyons (0227) 272378 or donations to St Wilfrid's Hospice, Grosvenor Road, Chichester.

MILSTEIN - Margaret, suddenly, on Thursday November 24th 1994. Enquiries to Brian Warner Funeral Service, tel: Cambridge 240288.

RYAN - On November 23rd, peacefully, Daniel Joseph Ryan aged 78 years. Founder of D.J. Ryan & Sons Ltd., Longridge, Preston, Lancashire. Dearly loved husband of the late Maureen, dear father of Brian, John, Annette (deceased), Eileen and Carol. A dear father-in-law, loving grandad and great-grandad. Fortified with the Rites of Holy Church, formerly of Inglewhite, Preston, Lancashire. Our Lady of Knock pray for him. Concelebrated Requiem Mass, St Wilfrid's Church, Longridge, Tuesday 29th November at 11 am followed by interment at St Francis Churchyard, Hill Chapel, Goosnargh, Lancashire. Enquiries McKenna Funerals. tel: (0772) 251694.

SAYER - (née Daly), on November 23rd, peacefully in hospital, Kathleen, aged 82 years, of Necton. Dearly loved aunt of Michael and Alexandra. A friend to many. (C.O.H.S.E. Officer Retired 1968). Funeral Service and interment at All Saints Church, Necton, on Thursday 1st December at 2pm. Any enquiries to Chapmans Funeral Service, Swaffham. tel: (0760) 721308.

SHEPHARD - Philippa Jean on 24th November 1994 at University College Hospital, aged 83 years, fourth daughter of the late Lt. Col. Philip James Melvill, beloved sister of Anne, Alison and Loveday and most fondly remembered by her many nephews and nieces. Funeral will take place at Golders Green Crematorium (West Chapel), Hoop Lane, London NW11, at 12 noon on Thursday 1st December 1994. Family flowers only. Donations may be sent to St Johns Hospice at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, 60 Grove End Road, London NW8 9NH.

STEVENS - On 24th November 1994, peacefully in hospital, Anne, aged 69 years, of Newdigate. Much loved wife of Dick, loving mother of Paul, Nicole also Ank, much loved granny of Simone and Nadine. "Non, Je ne regrette rien"

WHITEHEAD - William Henry, on November 23rd, peacefully in the King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, in his 94th year. Funeral Service at St Bartholomew's Church, Haslemere, Wednesday November 30th at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only. A Memorial Service in London will be announced later.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

WENDY and Richard Nicholls - Congratulations on your 40th wedding Anniversary! With all our love from Beirut, England, Hong Kong and the Virgin Islands.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

GORDON-LUMB - On Saturday 26th November 1944, in the Savoy Chapel, Col. William Gordon and Margot Lumb.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

PAGE-RITCHIE - A Service of Thanksgiving for the lives of Mary and Kenneth Page-Ritchie will be held at 2 pm on Friday January 13th 1995, at Christ Church, Victoria Road, Kensington, London W8.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

McINDOE - Mrs June McIndoe and Kim, Gary and Karen wish to thank all the very many people who sent letters, flowers and condolences to June and family following the death of Cameron. So many kind letters have been received that it is not possible for June to reply personally to every letter, but she and the family are grateful beyond words for all the thoughts and expressions of sympathy she and all the children have received.

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BIRTHDAYS

BLACKISTON Sara. Congratulations on your 21st Birthday. All our love and best wishes for the future. Mum, Dad, James, Twiggy and Misty xxx

CROFT-BAKER Congratulations to Henry Croft-Baker and Emily Croft-Baker who both celebrate their coming of age on 26th November 1994. Henry will be 40 and his niece 18 years old.

CROSSLEY Nicholas Robert, Dilton Marsh, Wilts. Happy 75th Birthday to a very special man, greatly loved, highly valued, in age, never so wanted as now. To undo such cruel inhuman coldness, all you'd ever known, I came to fill your life with love, almost 30 years ago. Ever faithful to me your only love, you are "SIMPLY THE BEST". Your life is dearer to me than my own, so LIVE, my darling. I am forever YOUR DICE.

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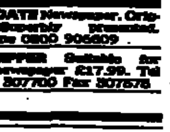
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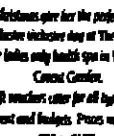
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OBITUARIES

THE EARL OF SELKIRK

The Earl of Selkirk, KT, GCMG, GBE, AFC, AE, PC, QC, First Lord of the Admiralty, 1957-59, and Commissioner General for South-East Asia, 1959-63, died on November 24 aged 88. He was born on January 4, 1906.



THE Earl of Selkirk was a distinguished minister, diplomat, Second World War air hero and Scottish patriot, whose career encompassed the world of politics in both the national and international spheres.

As Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster he served in Sir Anthony Eden's Government throughout the Suez crisis; as First Lord of the Admiralty under Harold Macmillan he saw Britain begin the retreat from her global defence commitments; as UK Commissioner for Singapore and Commissioner General for South-East Asia he helped supervise Singapore's transition from colonial to independent status. That he did so to the satisfaction of Singapore's demanding Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, says much for his qualities as a skilled negotiator. "I had always thought him a simple country gentleman," said Lee at the time. "I did not know that he is also a very skilful diplomat."

For those who knew him both north and south of the border, Geordie Selkirk will always be remembered as a delightful companion — witty, well-read, and keenly argumentative. He enjoyed good conversation, was fluent in French and German and had a lively and creative mind. As a young man in the Royal Air Force he cut a dashing figure, and at least one female friend will find it hard to forget him paying a visit to her country house by landing his plane on a nearby field.

But he was also a man of great modesty, and not many will have heard him talk about one of his less well-known Second World War exploits. As a group captain he was flying a Wellington bomber across the Bay of Biscay in 1944 when, to his horror, he saw five Luftwaffe fighter-bombers flying straight towards him. Instead of turning away and trying to avoid the encounter he turned directly towards his attackers. Only the day before he had been practising firing his aircraft's guns, so, diving down towards the sea he ordered his gunners to loose off with everything they had got. His windscreen was shattered by the enemy's fire, and at least one bullet tore through his sleeve. But, zig-zagging back, as he recalled "towards North America", he managed to enter some cloud and escaped. All he would say about his hazardous return to base, with the full force of the wind battering through the gaping hole in the cockpit screen, was to complain that each time his crew tried to hand him a cup of coffee it was blown away.

Later Lord Selkirk asked his nephew Lord James Douglas-Hamilton if he could check what had happened to the Luftwaffe aircraft. After some research Lord James discovered that four of the German planes had failed to return. "I expect three of them ran out of fuel," was all Lord Selkirk would say.

George Nigel Douglas-Hamilton, tenth Earl of Selkirk, was the second son of the 13th Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, Scotland's premier duke. He took up the Selkirk title on the succession of his older brother to the dukedom in 1945 under the terms of a "special remainder" dating back to 1688 when the earldom and its attendant baronies were diverted to the second son.

Educated at Eton and Balliol, he studied law at Edinburgh University as well as attending the universities of Bonn, Vienna and the Sorbonne in Paris. He was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in 1935 and practised at the Scottish Bar, becoming a QC in 1959. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1934, and commanded 603 Squadron of the Auxiliary Air Force from 1934 to 1938. It was as a wing commander that in 1939 he was asked to represent the Government at the opening of Scotland's first civilian airport at Grangemouth. A rugby enthusiast, he played for Edinburgh Wanderers. He was also captain of the Murrayfield Boys' Brigade and station commander of Turnhouse airfield.

His political career began in 1935 when he was elected a member of Edinburgh Town Council before being appointed Commissioner for Special Areas in Scotland. He remained committed to Scotland and Scottish affairs for the rest of his life, and, though he had no Scottish seat, he lost no opportunity of returning to his native land.

His career, both military and political, however, took him often abroad. During the war in which he served throughout in the RAF, he was for a time Chief Intelligence Officer and personal assistant to Lord Dowding. He was awarded the OBE (military) and mentioned twice in dispatches. After the war he was for two years a Government Whip in the Lords before becoming Paymaster-General under Churchill and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster under Eden from 1955 to 1957. Though he supported the Suez venture he was privately sceptical, believing that either Britain should have committed itself totally to the operation or should never have got involved at all. He was not a man for in-betweens.

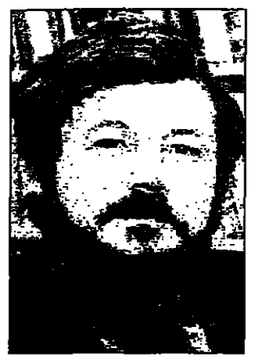
His appointment as First Lord of the Admiralty and then as Commissioner General for South East-Asia by Harold Macmillan launched a new and influential period in his career. Announcing his posting to South-East Asia in 1959, Macmillan said that it was vital to have someone with experience in government and the personal qualities to deal with a highly fraught political situation. That he acquitted himself well and showed at the same time toughness and a shrewd ability in negotiation was universally acknowledged.

Lord Selkirk retained his keen interest in Asia in later years, becoming UK Council representative for Seato and chairman of the Conservative Commonwealth Council and a member of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs. He attended the House of Lords regularly and spoke for the Government on matters as diverse as airport security, local government and terrorism. He was a constant source of ready advice for both family and friends, and never shrank from difficult situations. In fact, it was a standing joke with him that "I wake up in the morning, think what I would least like to do, then do it". He was a passionate Scot and, though he inherited property in Dorset and lived there for most of his life, remained deeply attached to his Scottish roots.

In 1949 he married Audrey Durell, eldest daughter of the late Maurice Drummond-Sale-Barker, who survives him. They had no children. The title passes to Lord Selkirk's nephew Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Conservative Minister at the Scottish Office and MP for Edinburgh West.

ANTHONY WARD

Anthony Ward, university teacher and novelist, died from liver failure on November 15 aged 57. He was born on July 28, 1937.



TONY WARD taught English at York University, wrote three novels, two plays and the libretto for the opera *Toussaint*. He was a natural countryman, and excelled at field sports, including riding to hounds. He will be remembered in Yorkshire and the South of France, which became a sort of second home to him, for his unrestrained conviviality.

Born in Sheffield, the second son of a miner, Wilfred Anthony Ward was brought up in Ruskington, Lincolnshire, where his father Wilfred began a second career as the village butcher. An almost classic beneficiary of the 1944 Butler Education Act, Ward, whose miner grandfather was illiterate, won a place at Carre's Grammar School, Sleaford. He was academically brilliant, but also excelled at cricket, music and acting. Indeed so diverse and abundant were his talents that his English master, the poet Dennis Winterburn, chose in his final report a metaphor of "shooting stars", and their glorious but brief passage.

Cambridge, where he went up to read English at St John's in October 1956, was an altogether bigger arena, but Ward soon made an exuberant impact, respected by "hearties" and "arties" alike. A memorable Caliban in a May week production of *The Tempest*, Ward entertained the cast with ad hoc recitals on the grand piano in his New Court rooms. It is unlikely that Debussy or Fauré will ever be performed again on an instrument also used to support vast parcels of bloody rump-steak thrust upon Ward by his mother, who had scant faith in the St John's cuisine.

Such was his physical vigour that one summer he returned to Cambridge from Ruskington by canoe, a journey taking five days and involving a dangerous negotiation of the Wash, before he and his schoolfriend John Pickard reached the gentler waters of the Ouse and Cam.

Ward got an excellent degree and received the Harper Wood Studentship. His PhD thesis was on Walter Pater, a labour he combined with odd jobs, including a stint as a steeplejack on King's College Chapel.

In 1962 he married Nicole Jouve, the academic offspring of a French medical dynasty in the Bouches-du-Rhône. In 1963 he became a founder member of the English faculty in the newly-created University of York, experiencing its "Big Bang". His teaching vocation now found its expression in bewitching lectures and for nearly thirty years he shared eclectic literary passions with students, producing an annual Shakespeare play, and was not above sweeping the stage himself between acts.

In the 1960s he also wrote three well-received novels, *The Tent of God*, *The River Slea* and *Our Human Constitution*, a generational story of Yorkshire miners. The latter's title derived from the rejoinder made by A. J. Cook, the miners' leader in the 1926 strike, when his men were accused by Baldwin of "fighting the British constitution". In fact, Cook said, the strike's aim was defending "our human constitution".

Ward now began a dashing decade riding with the Sinnington, writing plays, and taking advantage of a visiting professorship in Alberta to shoot bear and build a log-cabin for his family. In 1977 he had a rewarding year writing the libretto for *Toussaint*, a new opera by David Blake about the Haiti slave uprising, performed by ENO that year and again in 1983.

Ward's career had always abounded with contradictions. There was an almost fictional neatness when the wife of this most macho of aesthetes achieved celebrity, first in her native France, as a leading feminist. Retiring from York in the early 1990s, he took pride in Nicole's elevation to the chair of English.

Robert Nye, reviewing *Our Human Constitution* in *The Guardian*, wrote: "Ward achieves some passages of almost hallucinatory vividness; his writing is bloodshot, keen, visceral . . . once encountered, I defy anyone to forget it."

The same could be said of Ward himself. In an earlier age he might have been Jude the Obscure, imprisoned by his background. As it was, he remained as blithely at home among aristocratic hunting friends, luminaries of the French intellectual establishment, or tattooed soccer fans on cross-Channel ferries — where a game he designed to alleviate the tedium of sailing to France involved defeating all-comers in arm-wrestling contests for rounds of drink.

Tony Ward leaves his widow, two sons and a daughter.

SAM FRANCIS

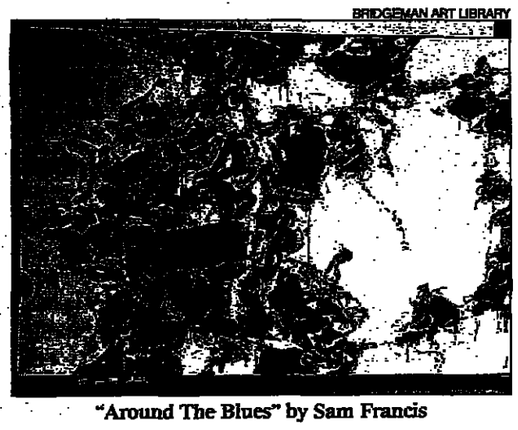
Sam Francis, American abstract painter, died in Santa Monica on November 4 aged 71. He was born San Mateo, California, on June 25 1923.



SINCE he was American and his work undeniably abstract, Sam Francis nearly always — in Europe at least — found himself lumped in with the Abstract Expressionists. However, although there is a superficial connection, as there would be with any American abstractionist who emerged in the immediate postwar years, Francis's identification with his New York contemporaries obfuscates rather than illuminates.

To begin with, he was a Californian rather than a New Yorker and that remains important in analysing the American art scene. Then, he spent his vital formative years as an artist not in New York but in France where he comfortably allowed himself to be appropriated by the Ecole de Paris, first made his mark in an important group show devoted to local painters of "l'Informel" and had his first one man show in 1952. But above all, his way of deploying paint was the opposite of his New York contemporaries.

BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY



"Around The Blues" by Sam Francis

Where they — particularly the so-called "action painters" — splashed on pigment with happy abandon, he allowed his pigments to dye the canvass in delicately applied pools and puddles and dribbles, so that the ultimate effect approaches closer to the placidity of batik than the violence of expressionism.

If this comparison suggests an element of the oriental in his artistic make up, it is precise. He was always interested in the controlled randomness of much oriental calligraphy, and during the later 1950s spent time in Asia, first in Thailand and then Japan, where he worked, studied and acquired a Japanese wife. The mark of this experience was to prove permanent in his work, even after he moved back to California in the early 1960s. Although his style became bolder and broader, it was still based on the sparing application of thinned pigment on pure white canvasses, though now often using a paint-roller. There was the same economy of effect, and a curious reticence which might be read as philosophical calm.

In all of this he resembled other independent abstractionists of the American fringe, such as Mark Tobey, while in the importance of his French connections he resembled Joan Mitchell. She, admittedly, had escaped to Paris from New York, and the classic French artist most influential on her was late Monet while for Francis it was late Cezanne, but the fusion of French and American is very similar in both painters. It was also significant that when Francis first arrived in Paris he immediately gravitated towards another north American refugee (this time Canadian), Jean-Paul Riopelle, who virtually created the whole "signifiance de l'informel" from his own experience of New York abstraction and European automotism.

Francis was actually a relatively late starter in art. Initially he had no ambitions in that direction, beginning his studies at Berkeley in medicine and psychology. Chance involved him, while doing his war service in the American airforce, in a crash which injured his spine and led to spinal tuberculosis. While being treated in hospital for this latter condition, he took up painting by way of occupational therapy. Once he had got the bug he abandoned medicine and enrolled instead in the California's School of Fine Art in San Francisco. Later he went back to Berkeley to study art history.

Right from the beginning he tended towards abstraction, though his earliest works retained a vestigial link with landscape. He was already aware of Abstract Expressionism when he went to Paris in 1950 on the GI Bill, which financed such educational enterprises for veterans. Almost immediately after his arrival and first contact with Riopelle's circle he began painting in a manner recognisibly his own, producing canvasses in which delicate, seemingly arbitary patches of pale colour meandered over large white surfaces in a way suggesting the balance between improvisation and control found in the best West Coast jazz of the period.

The colours of his work grew more assertive in later years, and his mode of applying them varied between dribbling and rolling, but he always remained faithful to his original, semi-oriental aesthethic. He also remained faithful for most of his life after 1970 to his native California, though he liked to travel to France and the Orient. He was married five times, and several of his wives survive him. If he always remains something of an outsider on the American art scene, unthinkingly omitted from several vast survey shows of modern American painting in which he might have been expected automatically to figure, he made up for this neglect at home by the reverence in which he has always been held in Europe.

MURIEL HOWLETT

Muriel Howlett, MBE, radio producer, died on November 11 aged 88. She was born on October 18, 1906.



ONE of the women pioneers of broadcasting, Muriel Howlett worked for the BBC for 32 years, rising to be a senior producer and news editor for the World Service in Bush House. But her fame with the listeners was probably greatest when in 1938 she was personally chosen by Sir John (later Lord) Reith to be the BBC representative aboard the inaugural flight of the Imperial Airways flying boat service to Sydney. At each stop — and there were 33 of them — Howlett would send back commentaries, entitling her to qualify as the original woman Outside Broadcasts reporter.

She had attracted the attention of Reith — who himself later that summer was to go on to head Imperial Airways — through her reputation as being the fastest typist in the BBC news room. (She was said to be able to take dictation straight onto the typewriter at the speed of shorthand.)

Another early broadcaster whom she enormously impressed with her efficiency was Richard Dimbleby — "Bumble" to her — whom she accompanied on a tour of the danger spots of Europe just before war broke out in 1939. Later in the war she became a talks assistant in the then Empire Service.

Born in the Australian outback, Howlett came from very modest origins. Her education began at the local village school, from which she managed to obtain a scholarship to the Fort Street Girls High School in Sydney. But her education there had to be curtailed because of her mother's constant ill-health (she was an only child).

Muriel Howlett was the possessor of a rich, contralto voice and this enabled her at the age of 19 to win a singing competition — the proceeds from which provided her with sufficient funds to pay for a secretarial course. She soon found her feet as a highly skilled secretary working for Shell in Australia and at the age of 28 resolved to try her luck in London.

Arriving in England after a six-week voyage in 1935 she was fortunate enough to obtain a job in the then three-year-old Broadcasting House. It was a period when the BBC was a much less hierarchical structure than it is today, and she soon became an integral part of the Corporation's news organisation. The main domestic programme, shared with the Empire Service, with which she was associated was the long-running *Radio Newsreel* — though after the war it was in the World Service that she made her mark as a highly accomplished producer.

She never abandoned her interest in music — singing in the professional choir at St Columba's, Pont Street, and being a valued member of the London Orpheus Choir. She finally retired from the BBC in 1967, having been appointed MBE for her services to broadcasting in 1961.

Muriel Howlett continued to live in London after her retirement but returned to Australia four or five times, including a visit for her 80th birthday. She never married.

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When responding to advertisements, readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

ALL BEST TICKETS, 5 Nations Rugby, Football, Theatre, Operas. 071 839 2122, etc.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 AND IN THE MATTER OF THE MELBOURNE COURT ESTATES LIMITED IN LIQUIDATION

TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned John Charles Heath, of Nelson Wells, 4-6 Throgmorton Street, London EC2A 4LU was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company on the 3 November 1994 without a Liquidation Committee.
J C HEATH
Liquidator
Dated this 18th day of November 1994.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION No 006958 OF 1994 IN THE MATTER OF CURVER CONSUMER PRODUCTS LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 24th day of November 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Capital of the above named Company by £3,000,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on the 14th day of December 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said Reduction of Share Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undersigned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 25th day of November 1994
EVERSHEDS WELLS & HIND
14 Fletcher Gate, Nottingham NG1 2FX
Solicitors for the above named Company

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION No 006957 OF 1994 IN THE MATTER OF MOMMERSTEEG SEED COMPANY LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 24th day of November 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the Reduction of Capital of the above named Company from £500,000 to £105,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on the 14th day of December 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said Reduction of Share Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undersigned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 25th day of November 1994
EVERSHEDS WELLS & HIND
14 Fletcher Gate, Nottingham NG1 2FX
Solicitors for the above named Company

TRUSTEE ACTS

JAMAL ABDERRAHMAN of 14 RUE LES JUFFRIZEC, NOTRE DAME, TUNISIA died on 18TH OCTOBER 1994 particulars to The Executor, Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Probate Operations, 1st Floor, Duncan House, 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield S1 3RG before 27TH JANUARY 1995.

LEVY, ETHEL OF 6 TOWNSHEND COURT, SHANNON PLACE, LONDON NW8 died on 6TH SEPTEMBER 1994 particulars to PARKER THOMAS Solicitors of 55-56 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON WC2A 3LN before 27TH JANUARY 1995.

TRUSTEE ACTS

HOPWOOD NEIL, late of 19 CALYPSO AVENUE, MOSMAN, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA formerly of 38 HALLAM COURT, HALLAM STREET, LONDON W1. Died on 20th SEPTEMBER 1994. Particulars to TUCKER TURNER KINGSLEY WOOD & Co., Solicitors of 18, BEDFORD ROW, LONDON WC1R 4EB before 31ST JANUARY 1995.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to SCT of TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE or any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

DAVIES, PETER JOHN of 34B MARYLANDS ROAD, WESTMINSTER, LONDON W9 died on 24TH JUNE 1992 particulars to SYMONS & CO Solicitors of PARSES LANE, BARNSTAPLE, DEVON EX31 1EF before 27TH JANUARY 1995.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THESE NEWSPAPERS wish to apologise unreservedly to HI-SOCIETY and regret the addition of defamatory text, in error, to the organisation's recent advertisement within the Saturday Rendezvous column.

THE OLD HALL SCHOOL WELLINGTON TELFORD SHROPSHIRE
150 YEARS OLD IN 1995
For details of anniversary celebrations, please contact The School Secretary now. Tel: 0952 223117

ANIMALS IN NEED
Please help us give compassionate care to abused and abandoned cats and dogs and those whose owners have died or are seriously ill. Our sanctuary provides daily forest walks for dogs. Also a neutering service in the parent city areas. We spay not slay.
Donations to: WOODSIDE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST, Wheddon, Plymouth PL7 4SD (Reg Charity No 259788).

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
071 782 7272 or fax 071 782 7827

FOG AND FUEL

The first big fog of winter which kept the sun out of sight for half of last week is a reminder of how far science has gone in the utilisation of coal and how little advantage has been taken of the new processes discovered. It has now been established beyond all controversy that black fogs are ultimately caused by incomplete combustion of coal. For this, though factories are not wholly guiltless, the domestic fire is the chief offender. Day in, day out, from the domestic hearth there rises into the atmosphere a noxious mixture of gases, vapours, and solids, and sure retribution comes in their train. Between smoking chimneys and the workmen picking tons of decayed stone from the Palace of Westminster, or conductors leading their omnibuses home in pestilential fog is an infallibly traced connexion. To the smoking chimney must also be charged many of the rickety and tubercular children of the slums. For atmospheric pollution shuts out the precious ultra-violet rays and it also predisposes to pulmonary and cardiac diseases. Such pollution also means large additions to laundry bills.

There are many ways of combating this evil . . . but, though good progress has been made in the last few years, the occurrence of such fogs as that of last week shows the vast amount of ground still to be covered. Indeed by the absolute standard more home fires are kept smoking than ten years ago. The behaviour of the British race as a whole, and of Londoners in particular, in these annual visitations of fog is one of the most remarkable things to which a psychologist could devote his attention. For about a dozen days in winter Londoners share the Lapps' prerogative of never seeing the sun during all the twenty-four hours. They understand what was so graphically described as "palpable darkness," a darkness that can be felt. They grope about the streets in pathetic endeavours to reach their accustomed haunts and sit for hours in trains which dare not break forth from their platform moorings. Breathing becomes painful, clothes and body clammy, yet the victims of Nature's playfulness, as it is imagined, take all this in good heart. They see something quite humorous in omnibuses being guided home by their conductors, and if the truth must be told the Londoner would not like to be parted from his fog. It has become an essential element of his existence and he glories in his shame.

ON THIS DAY

November 26 1934

Fog became a much more serious problem in the next quarter of a century. Four thousand people nationwide were estimated to have lost their lives in 1952 as a result of atmospheric pollution in the December fog, and another thousand in December, 1956, before smoke abatement laws began to take effect.

NEWS

Blair backs market economy

■ Tony Blair is calling on Labour to commit itself to the market economy in its new statement of party aims and values drawn up to replace Clause Four.

In a document to be considered by the party's national executive, he gives further proof of his determination to change Labour for good by making plain his desire to move away from old-style public ownership to tighter regulation of the privatised former state sector ..... **Pages 1, 8**

Girls win damages for strip search

■ Two teenage girls were awarded £21,000 damages by the Metropolitan Police after a "humiliating" strip search in a pub lavatory during a drugs raid ..... **Page 1**

Referendum hint

Douglas Hurd raised the prospect of a referendum on Britain's future in the EU ..... **Page 1**

Society merger

Two out of five homes could get a windfall payment after two of Britain's largest building societies said they plan to merge ..... **Page 1**

Lack of support

A leading organiser of the campaign to oust John Major admitted he could so far count on only about two-thirds of the 34 names required ..... **Page 2**

Historian's admission

One of Britain's most eminent classicists confirmed that he had contemplated driving an Oxford colleague to his death for the good of their college ..... **Page 3**

Priestess guilty

A high priestess who led an exorcism in which a woman was battered to death was convicted of manslaughter ..... **Page 4**

Nuclear protest

The Royal Navy's first Trident missile submarine was blockaded by protesters ..... **Page 5**

BT worker jailed

A BT engineer who terrorised scores of women with abusive phone calls was jailed for five years ..... **Page 7**

Bihac threats

Yasushi Akashi, the United Nations special envoy to the former Yugoslavia, threatened airstrikes in the Bihac area ..... **Page 13**

Surfer beaten

Catch a wave, the Beach Boys chanted, and you're on top of the world. The last time Richard Ernsdorf caught a wave he was beaten up by surfers ..... **Page 17**

Rally postponed

The Gaza Strip pulled back from the brink of a Palestinian civil war when *Islamic militants postponed* a mass rally ..... **Page 18**

Worn old Sphinx shows its age

■ The Great Sphinx of Giza could be thousands of years older *than previously* believed, throwing into question the origin of civilisation in Egypt. The assertion is based on studies of the way the limestone rock of the Sphinx has been eroded ..... **Page 11**



MARC ASPLAND

Three of the models who took part yesterday in the tenth annual British Hairdressing Awards in London for the title of "Avant Garde Hairdresser of the Year". The competition attracted 1,300 contestants

OPINION

Clause forward: Under Mr Blair, the parties may have different priorities: but they *are not fighting* wholly different battles ..... **Page 21**

A better Bhutto: In Miss Bhutto, Pakistan has an advocate for moderate Islam: such voices should be encouraged, and listened to with respect ..... **Page 21**

PAPERS

Last Friday, Yassir Arafat's police resorted to a technique *the PLO knows best*, violence, in trying to deal with rock-throwing Islamic militants in Gaza . . . That raises the question of whether Yitzhak Rabin bet on the wrong horse by choosing Arafat as his peacemaking partner

— The Wall Street Journal

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: In Liverpool, Glasgow and Edinburgh people had more than the lottery on their minds: which would be the 1999 City of *Architecture and Design festival?* ..... **Page 20**

Alan Clark: "I cannot think of any other instance where a Cabinet has asked for a dissolution *to take revenge on political colleagues*" ..... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

The Earl of Selkirk. First Lord of the Admiralty, 1957-59, and Commissioner General for South-East Asia, 1959-63; **Anthony Ward**, teacher and novelist. **Page 23**

LETTERS

Stress at work ..... **Page 21**

BUSINESS

Building societies: Savers and borrowers stand to gain from a shares windfall after the Halifax and the Leeds Permanent announced plans *to merge* ..... **Page 25**

Car parks: A huge potential takeover deal fell apart when National Parking Corporation said talks with Prudential Venture Managers had ended ..... **Page 25**

Privatisations: City of London institutions have done well from the first DM15 billion tranche of Deutsche Telekom which is to be floated in early 1996 ..... **Page 26**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 3.1 to 3033.5. Sterling's index rose from 79.6 to 79.8 after a rise from $1.5618 to $1.5630 and from DM2.4341 to DM2.4362 ..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Cricket: England's bowlers struggled to make an impression on the first day of the Brisbane Test and allowed Australia to build a total of 329 for four ..... **Page 48**

Rugby: At 6ft 10in, Derwyn Jones, who plays for Wales against South Africa today, represents a new breed in *rugby* ..... **Page 44**

Snooker: Ken Doherty, attempting to become the first *Irish winner of the Royal Liver Assurance UK championship*, dominated the first semi-final session against James Wattana ..... **Page 48**

Football: Brian Little, the former Aston Villa player, was confirmed as the club's manager, after the dismissal of Ron Atkinson ..... **Page 48**

SATURDAY TIMES

VISION



High-flyer: Prize-winning albatross film ..... **Page 3**
Lynne Truss on *Omnibus's* journey round Robert Louis Stevenson ..... **Page 5**
Middle Age dread: Are we returning to the Dark Ages? ..... **Page 6**

WEEKEND



Getting ready: The new way of death ..... **Pages 1 and 3**
King of collectors: Why royal memorabilia has become so popular ..... **Page 8**
Dig deep: Gifts for gardeners *with everything* ..... **Page 9**
Fun and games: Toys to turn learning into simple child's play ..... **Page 13**
Bottom ten: The ten worst-selling cars ..... **Page 19**
Bull market: Tutti, our cow for Africa, brings new joy to the bush in the shape of a calf ..... **Page 21**
Travel: Simon Barnes in Tanzania; and childcare on New Year's Eve ..... **Pages 22-25**
Competition: Win a home in Brittany ..... **Page 27**

WEEKEND ARTS



The power and the gory: Rodney Milnes reviews a new production of Mussorgsky's epic historical opera *Khovanshchina* ..... **Page 5**
Week in the arts: "Aren't 300 new plays a year enough?" *asks Richard Morrison*, in response to the letter from 87 playwrights demanding more new drama in subsidised theatres ..... **Page 5**
Signing on: Does the trend towards having opera and theatre performances interpreted for the deaf in sign-language detract from a performance? ..... **Page 6**
New on CD: A new recording of Berlioz's mammoth opera *Les Troyens* is reviewed today, and Prince's much-delayed *Black Album* ..... **Weekend Page 7**

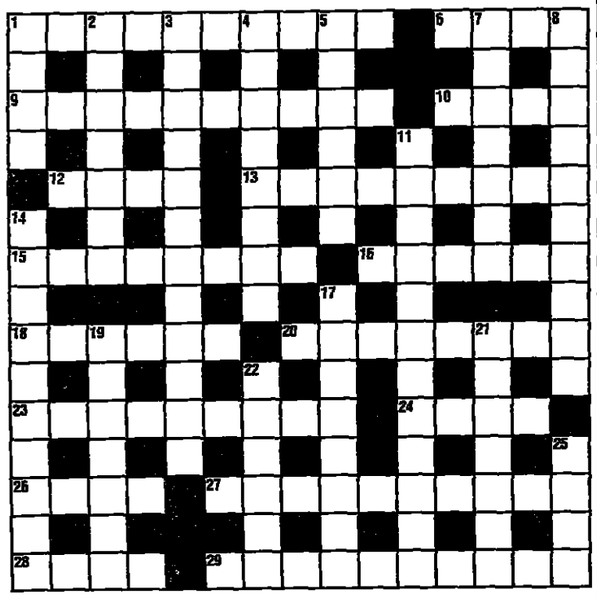
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,710

KNOCKANDO

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....

.....



ACROSS

1 Ground for panic getting stronger, we may hear (5,5)
6 The sort of bowling that bites back? (4)
9 Capital sold off, I missed arrangement for mutual assistance (3,4,3)
10 Animal almost dry (4)
12 Tall, thin Field Marshal (4)
13 In which the other animals also entered the Ark? (9)
15 Colours worn by great beauty (3,5)
16 Tell where schoolboy may be (6)
18 It's a function of the church to admit no error (6)
20 Forbid arrest, since he helped Paul (8)
23 Vegetable Ceres won't supply? On the contrary (5,4)
24 In any case, head of department is a *man* (4)
26 Simply and capriciously want to be dropped (4)
27 Serve as conjuror? (2,3,5)
28 Haig was a real disaster (4)
29 Come on, abandon the East for Western capital and see the similarity (10)

DOWN

1 Run red (4)
2 Puzzled to behold, say (7)
3 Avoiding familiarity though only a couple of feet away? (2,4,6)
4 Take cover, holding city to be vulnerable (8)
5 Newton understood computer to a very small extent (6)
7 Left in charge, old Stoic walked here (7)
8 New anaesthetic applied to the majority for deepest result (10)
11 Sort of pill for a hangover? (7-5)
14 Ask for money — a few pounds — from Jasper (10)
17 Pop in here (8)
19 Swift correspondent received at first like a star (7)
21 Mates, but potential offspring doesn't survive (7)
22 Leading characters in Royal Court comedy displayed artistic style (6)
25 Like overtaking from the inside (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,704

C	A	P	S	I	Z	E	S	■	M	A	R	V	E	L
■	N	■	T	■	O	■	L	■	O	■	A	■	I	■
A	N	T	R	I	M	■	O	L	D	W	O	M	A	N
■	U	■	E	■	B	■	U	■	E	■	O	■	K	■
C	L	E	A	V	I	N	G	■	R	E	C	O	I	L
■	A	■	M	■	E	■	H	■	A	■	S	■	A	■
F	R	I	L	L	■	N	O	R	T	H	W	E	S	T
A	■	E	■	A	■	F	■	E	■	A	■	E	■	■
B	A	S	T	I	N	A	D	O	■	U	T	T	E	R
R	■	P	■	N	■	E	■	L	■	E	■	C	■	■
I	B	E	R	I	A	■	S	E	A	T	R	O	U	T
C	■	C	■	L	■	P	■	C	■	L	■	A	■	■
A	U	T	O	G	I	R	O	■	T	H	I	R	D	S
T	■	R	■	S	■	N	■	I	■	L	■	O	■	■
S	Y	E	L	E	T	■	D	O	C	K	Y	A	R	D

Solution to Puzzle No 19,709

■	■	C	A	R	V	I	N	G	K	N	I	F	E	■
■	B	A	■	O	■	N	■	I	■	E	■	■	■	■
E	A	R	M	U	F	F	■	R	E	T	I	T	L	E
S	■	P	■	T	■	O	■	R	■	T	■	A	■	■
P	I	O	N	E	E	R	■	H	E	I	R	E	S	S
■	E	■	R	■	M	■	■	D	■	R	■	T	■	■
C	I	T	E	S	■	A	D	D	R	E	S	S	E	E
T	■	■	■	N	■	E	■	■	■	R	■	■	■	■
A	P	P	A	R	A	T	U	S	■	A	S	S	A	I
C	■	A	■	A	■	P	■	T	■	E	■	S	■	■
L	I	N	I	N	G	S	■	O	A	T	M	E	A	L
E	■	A	■	S	■	I	■	T	■	B	■	C	■	A
D	E	C	L	A	I	M	■	I	T	A	L	I	A	N
■	■	■	S	■	C	■	O	■	S	■	C	■	E	D
■	■	P	A	R	K	I	N	G	M	E	T	E	R	■

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: J Allen, Petersfield, Hants; H Taylor, Barry, S Glamorgan; T W Holt, Macclesfield, Cheshire; Mrs G P Thompson, Woodbridge, Suffolk; B Willerton, Hertford.

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 7.36 am — Sun sets: 3.59 pm

Moon sets: 12.26 pm — Moon rises: -

Last quarter today

London 3.59 pm to 7.38 am
Bristol 4.09 pm to 7.47 am
Edinburgh 3.50 pm to 8.12 am
Manchester 3.58 pm to 7.55 am
Penzance 4.26 pm to 7.54 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 7.38 am — Sun sets: 3.58 pm

Moon sets: 12.52 pm — Moon rises: 12.19 am

New Moon December 2

London 3.58 pm to 7.39 am
Bristol 4.08 pm to 7.49 am
Edinburgh 3.48 pm to 8.14 am
Manchester 3.57 pm to 7.57 am
Penzance 4.26 pm to 7.55 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6 11	6.2	7 01	6.2
Aberdeen	6 30	3.5	6 47	3.7
Avonmouth	11 45	10.6	-	-
Belfast	3 51	3.0	4 15	3.3
Cardiff	11 22	9.96	-	-
Devonport	10.38	4.7	11 04	4.4
Dover	3.29	5.2	4 00	5.6
Falmouth	9 58	4.5	10 34	4.2
Glasgow	5.46	4.1	5.45	4.5
Harwich	4 14	3.5	5 01	3.5
Holyhead	3 17	4.6	3 35	4.8
Hull	11 17	8.05	11 30	8.09
Ilfracombe	10.43	7.46	11 34	7.20
King's Lynn	11.22	5.2	11 33	5.4
Leith	7 37	4.8	7 58	4.7
Liverpool	3 39	7.7	4 29	7.9
Lowestoft	1 53	2.3	2 53	2.1
Margate	4 37	5.1	5.23	4.0
Milford Haven	11 11	5.7	11.48	5.4
Newquay	10.06	5.7	10.46	5.5
Oban	10 31	3.3	11.20	3.0
Penzance	9 42	4.7	10 20	4.4
Portland	10 51	1.6	11 56	1.5
Portsmouth	4 04	4.2	4 17	4.0
Shoreham	3 43	5.2	4 09	5.0
Southampton	3 36	4.0	3 57	3.9
Swansea	11 14	7.6	11 52	7.4
Tees	8 58	4.4	9.12	4.6
Wilton-on-Nze	4 14	3.6	4 56	3.5

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Cardiff, 16C (61F); lowest day max: Spadeadam, Cumbria 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Prestatyn and Rhyl, both Clwyd, and Fair Isle, Shetland, 0.12in. Highest sunshine, Skegness, Lincolnshire, 7hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** high pressure over northern France will continue to control the weather over the British Isles. Weak weather fronts will be pushed to the north around Scotland. Scotland will have clear intervals, short-lived in the north and east. Rain will spread to all parts from the South West. Northern Ireland will be cloudy with rain at times. England and Wales will be mostly cloudy and dry with some patchy light drizzle in the east, clearing later

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E England:** dull with patchy drizzle, becoming brighter in places and mainly dry. Winds light southwesterly. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, NW England, Cent N England:** overcast and mainly dry, misty in places; becoming brighter for a time in afternoon. Winds light west or southwest. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, Lake District, IoM:** dull with patchy drizzle on coasts and hills, becoming brighter in sheltered inland parts. Winds southwesterly moderate or fresh. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** partly cloudy, misty where skies are clear; cloud and rain spreading from west. Wind moderate southwest. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** cloudy with rain at times, some heavier rain later in the day. Winds fresh or strong south or southwest. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Outlook:** a band of rain will cross all parts, patchy in south. Then most areas settled and dry.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: t=thunder; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

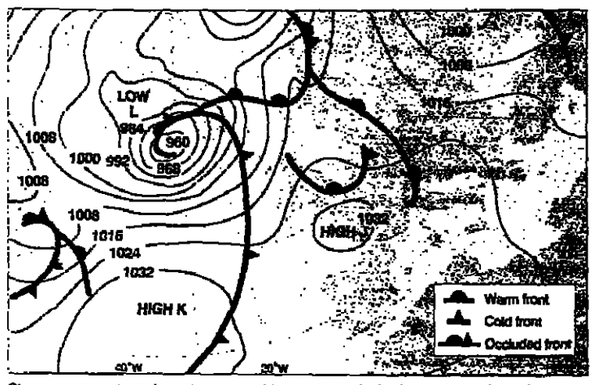
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.0	-	12	54	b	Liverpool	6.0	0.06	11	52	s
Anglesey	0.1	-	11	52	c	London	-	-	15	59	c
Aspatria	5.3	-	10	50	s	Lowestoft	2.8	-	11	52	b
Aviemore	-	-	9	48	c	Manchester	5.8	-	13	55	s
Belfast	4.1	-	9	48	fg	Margate	-	-	13	55	du
Birmingham	-	-	11	52	c	Minehead	0.1	-	15	59	c
Bognor R	-	-	13	55	du	Morecambe	5.8	0.03	11	52	s
Bournem'th	-	-	14	57	c	Newcastle	6.1	0.05	11	52	s
Bristol	1.2	-	14	57	b	Newquay	-	-	14	57	c
Buxton	6.2	0.01	8	46	s	Norwich	5.1	0.01	12	54	d
Cardiff	2.9	-	16	61	b	Nottingham	3.6	-	12	54	b
Clacton	-	-	13	55	c	Oxford	-	-	13	55	c
Colwyn Bay	1.9	0.11	12	54	b	Penzance	-	-	14	57	du
Cromer	5.9	-	10	50	s	Plymouth	-	-	13	55	du
Doncaster	6.7	-	11	52	s	Poole	-	-	14	57	c
Eastbourne	-	-	14	57	c	Prestatyn	X	0.12	11	52	s
Edinburgh	5.8	-	11	52	s	Ross-o-wye	1.5	-	15	59	b
Eskdalemuir	X					Sandown	-	-	13	55	c
Exmouth	-	-	14	57	du	Saunin Snd	-	-	14	57	c
Falmouth	X	-	13	55	c	Scarboro'	6.8	0.02	14	57	s
Fishguard	0.5	-	13	55	c	Scilly Isles	-	-	13	55	c
Folkestone	-	-	13	55	c	Shanklin	-	-	13	55	c
Glasgow	2.9	-	11	52	b	Shrewsbury	-	-	10	50	c
Guernsey	-	-	14	57	c	Skegness	7.0	0.01	12	54	s
Hastings	-	-	13	55	c	Southend	-	-	14	57	c
Hayling I.	-	-	13	55	c	Southport	6.4	0.04	11	52	s
Hove	-	-	14	57	c	Southsea	-	-	13	55	c
Hunstanton	5.7	-	11	52	s	Stornoway	0.2	0.02	10	50	c
Isle of Man	5.8	0.01	12	54	s	Swanage	-	-	13	55	c
Jersey	-	-	13	55	c	Tenby	-	-	14	57	c
Kinloss	0.2	-	10	50	c	Tiree	0.6	-	11	52	c
Leeds	6.5	-	12	54	s	Torquay	-	-	13	55	du
Lerwick	0.7	0.06	8	46	sh	Ventnor	-	-	13	55	du
Leuchars	5.2	-	12	54	s	Weymouth	-	-	13	55	c
Littlehmptn	-	-	13	55	c						

These are Thursday's figures

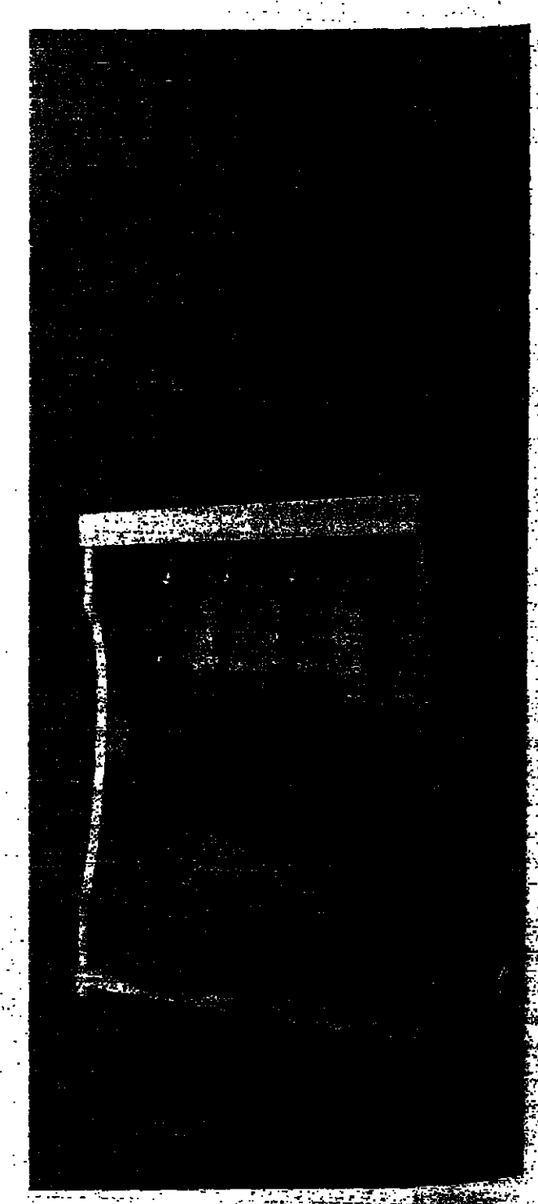
ABROAD

Ajaccio	19	66	s	Corfu	16	64	s	Majorca	19	66	s
Akrotiri	17	63	s	Dublin	14	57	f	Malaga	19	66	c
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dubrovnik	17	63	s	Malta	19	66	f
Algiers	19	66	s	Faro	21	70	s	Melb'rne	28	82	f
Amst'dm	11	52	f	Florence	9	48	c	Mexico C	16	61	s
Athens	18	64	s	Frankfurt	10	50	c	Miami	24	75	s
Bahrain	28	82	s	Funchal	21	70	c	Milan	6	43	fg
Bangkok	-	--		Geneva	11	52	c	Montreal	-4	25	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	18	64	c	Moscow	2	36	c
Barcelona	15	59	s	Helsinki	-1	30	s	Munich	10	50	c
Beirut	17	63	f	Hong K	26	79	s	Nairobi	-	--	
Belgrade	11	52	f	Innsbruck	11	52	s	Naples	18	64	s
Berlin	7	45	r	Istanbul	12	54	s	N Delhi	23	73	s
Bermuda	20	68	s	Jeddah	28	82	s	N York	2	36	s
Biarritz	13	55	c	Jo'burg	19	66	f	Nice	18	64	s
Borde'x	11	52	c	Karachi	33	91	s	Oslo	3	37	s
Brussels	9	48	c	L Palmas	24	75	s	Paris	13	55	c
Budapst	11	52	f	Le Touq't	11	52	f	Peking	8	46	s
B Aires	31	88	s	Lisbon	18	61	s	Perth	21	70	c
Cairo	19	66	f	Locarno	12	54	s	Prague	7	45	r
Chicago	7	45	s	L Angels	19	66	s	Reykjavik	5	41	r
Ch'church	14	57	c	Luxembg	7	45	c	Rhodes	17	63	s
Cologne	10	50	f	Luxor	21	70	s	Rio de J	24	75	s
C'phagn	7	45	s	Madrid	13	55	s	Riyadh	29	84	c
Rome	16	61	s								
Salzburg	9	48	c								
S F'isco	10	50	f								
Santiago	26	79	s								
S Paulo	22	72	c								
Seoul	8	46	s								
Sing'por	27	81	r								
Stkholm	4	39	s								
Strasb'rg	11	52	c								
Sydney	20	68	f								
Tangier	21	70	s								
Tel Aviv	13	55	r								
Tenerife	23	73	s								
Tokyo	17	63	s								
Toronto	0	32	f								
Tunis	19	66	c								
Valencia	19	66	s								
Vanc'ver	4	39	f								
Venice	11	52	c								
Vienna	11	52	c								
Warsaw	5	41	c								
Wash'ton	8	43	s								
Wellington	-	---									
Zurich	11	52	f								

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: high J will slowly decline in situ; high K will transfer northeast and intensify at first; low L should fill as it moves slowly



هكذا من الاعلى



WEEKEND MONEY 31

Savers join in call for bigger say



MELVYN MARCKUS 26

Our City Editor on defence companies at war



SPORT 42-48

Football's born leader set to win more spurs

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
Page 45

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26 1994

Societies on course for record £9bn flotation

Halifax in £90bn merger plan

BY ANNE ASHWORTH AND ROBERT MILLER

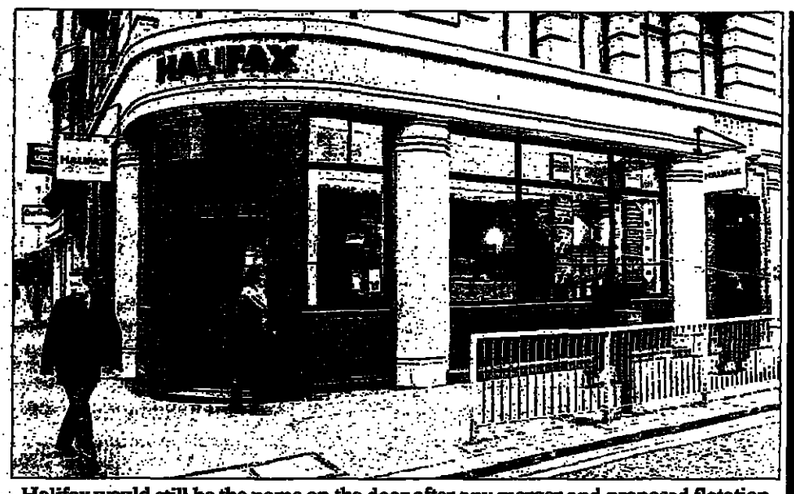
THE proposed £9 billion stock market flotation that would follow the merger of the Halifax and the Leeds could spell the beginning of the end for the building society movement and a 150-year old tradition of mutuality. It would also be the biggest new share issue and the largest ever single extension to share ownership.

After the issue likely to take place in 1997, Britain's largest mortgage lenders would all be banks and therefore have access to unlimited funds from the wholesale money markets, a perk not enjoyed by building societies. By that time, not only would the Halifax be a bank and quoted company but so too will the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, which will have been merged into Lloyds Bank.

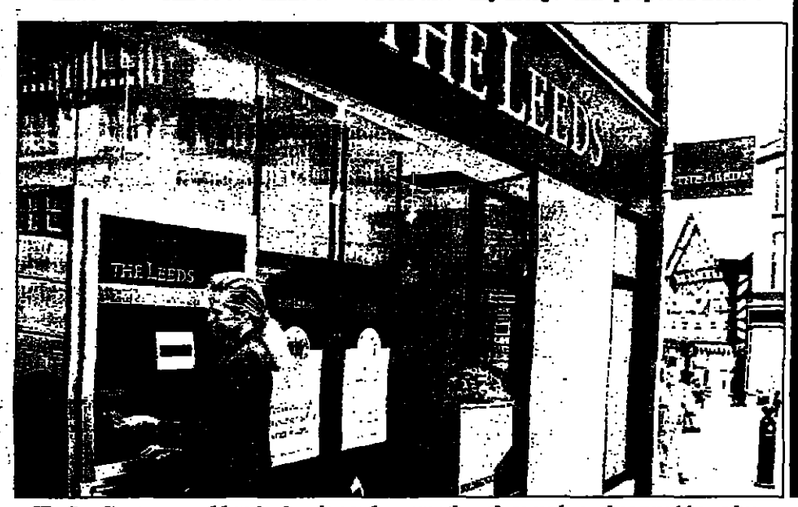
In the flotation of the Halifax, free shares would be given to both members and borrowers but they would be entitled to buy more in the sale. When the Abbey National, the structure of whose flotation is expected to be the model for the Halifax, joined the stock market in 1989 it nearly doubled the capital of the company by raising an extra £975 million from members subscribing to extra shares, in addition to the 100 free shares they received.

If floated, the Halifax, as the institution would be known, would be the fourth largest bank, behind the Hongkong and Shanghai — owner of the Midland — National Westminster and Barclays. Halifax would be ranked 50th in the world, with total assets of about £90 billion.

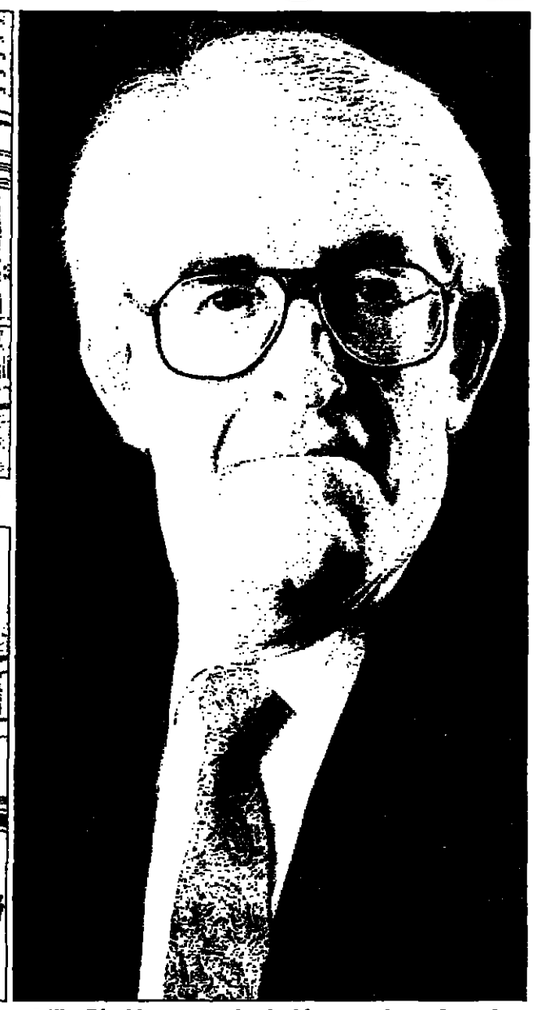
Yesterday, Jon Foulds, chairman of the Halifax, explained that the merger plan came as a result of increased competition in the building society industry. The poor state of the housing market means that fewer people are moving house and the lenders are competing for a larger share in a declining market.



Halifax would still be the name on the door after any merger and proposed flotation



The Leeds name would go in the planned merger though some branches would survive



Mike Blackburn says the deal is a marriage of equals

Low savings rates have caused investors to move away from societies. As a result, the Halifax had to seek funds from the world capital markets, where Mr Foulds felt that banks enjoyed greater credibility than mutual organisations, such as building societies. The combined societies will be seeking cash over the rest of the decade to finance further expansion into life insurance and unit trusts, which Mr Foulds described as the "side of the balance sheet where the need for capital was greatest". He confirmed, however, that mortgage lending would continue to be the "bedrock" of the business.

The Halifax, whose chief executive, Mike Blackburn, was head of the Leeds, is anxious to present the deal as a marriage of equals. Although the Leeds name would be lost, many of its brands would remain. The deal would give Leeds customers access to a current account, the existing Halifax Maxim account.

Changes to the product range would form part of a general restructuring, planned to begin next spring if the merger is approved. Although customers would initially enjoy a larger branch network, there would be closures in areas that have both Halifax and Leeds branches close together. Mr Foulds said that this would take years.

The headquarters of the society would be in Halifax, with the current Leeds HQ, which is about 15 miles away, being converted into the second business centre. The Halifax says there would be no compulsory redundancies. There may be a voluntary redundancy programme, but Mr Foulds stressed that most of the job losses would be through natural wastage.

The merger is far from being a foregone conclusion. The assent of various bodies is needed, not least from the membership of the Leeds and the Building Societies Commission, the industry regulator, and possibly, the Office of Fair Trading. The OFT may be concerned about the competition angle. The OFT said last night: "We scrutinise mergers which involve companies with assets of more than £70 million being taken over. Of particular interest are deals that would mean the company had a market of more than 25 per cent."

The Halifax said that it believed the deal did not breach any of the OFT guidelines. The combined societies will have a 20 per cent share of the liquid savings market and a sixth of the mortgage market. As there will be no payout at this stage, these savers may be reluctant to agree.

Ged Nichols, general secretary of Independent Union of Halifax staff, for more than 85 per cent of Halifax staff, said: "We were aware of the merger talks earlier this year. What surprised us was the intention to become a plc. We are concerned that 140 years of tradition as a mutual will disappear and that the management will focus on short-term share price rather than the long-term interests of customers."

Clive Webster, of the Leeds staff association, said: "We have been told that 1,000 people a year leave the combined organisation. That, plus a possible voluntary redundancy and early retirement programme over two or three years could achieve the job cuts the management want."

The 80 or so societies remaining after the two proposed mega mergers will either be forced to seek megers themselves, or the shelter of one of the insurance banks or one of the banks. TSB, for example, has stated that it would like to acquire a building society. Four other deals are said to be in the pipeline in the building society world.

Windfall payment, page 1
Society matchmaker, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3033.5	(-3.1)
Yield	4.24%	
FT-SE A All share	1509.03	(-1.25)
Nikkei	18666.93	(-34.31)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3711.97	(+37.34)*
S&P Composite	452.75	(+2.82)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	6%*	(unq)
Long Bond	94²⁵/₃₂*	....
Yield	7.95%*	....

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6%	(5¹⁵/₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	103¹³/₃₂	(103²⁷/₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5630*	(unq)
London:		
$	1.5635	(1.5615)
DM	2.4373	(2.4333)
FFr	8.3725	(8.3570)
SFr	2.0665	(2.0637)
Yen	154.23	(153.77)
£ Index	79.8	(79.6)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5595*	(unq)
FFr	5.3572*	....
SFr	1.3225*	....
Yen	98.73*	....
$ Index	62.8	(62.7)

Tokyo close Yen 98.43

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb) $17.00 ($17.00)

GOLD

London close..... $385.05 ($384.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Welsh fall

The continued difficulties in Welsh Water's non-core business were highlighted yesterday when the group reported sharply lower earnings and announced a dividend increase that analysts said was disappointing. Pre-tax profit for the half year to September 30 fell to £49.4 million from £77.3 million in the previous period. **Page 26**

City work

City institutions have secured a chunk of business arising from the first DM15 billion tranche of Deutsche Telekom, Germany's state-owned telecommunications group, which is to be floated in early 1996. **Page 26**

NCP founders and Pru fail to do a deal

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE biggest potential takeover deal this year fell apart yesterday when National Parking Corporation, owner of the NCP car park chain, announced that discussions with Prudential Venture Managers over a bid that would have been worth £600 million plus, had been ended by mutual consent.

PruVen, which is already NPC's second biggest shareholder after Royal Insurance, and a raft of other institutions were negotiating to buy the 72 per cent of shares held by the founders, Sir Donald Gosling, 65, and Ronald Hobson, 74.

The deal, which had been expected to be announced at NPC's annual meeting on December 5, collapsed over price. The founders are thought to have been asking about £470 million for their holdings, valuing the business at £650 million. PruVen and the other institutions had been looking at a price of £400 million to £430 million. "It has not been possible to agree a price that was satisfactory to all parties," a statement said.

Mr Hobson and Sir Donald began the business, now the biggest operator of car parks in Britain, in 1950 on a bomb site in Holborn, central London.

A source close to the talks said: "Sir Donald and Mr Hobson started with an emotional value for the company that was rather different from the actual, hard-nosed commercial value. Mixing and matching the two was always going to be quite difficult."

The two founders are thought unlikely to attempt another deal and PruVen will remain a shareholder in NPC, whose shares are traded on the over-the-counter market.

Minimum £500 stake for BSkyB

BY OUR CITY STAFF

THE minimum investment in shares in the forthcoming £4 billion-plus market flotation of BSkyB, the satellite TV service, has been set at £500. Mini-prospectuses will be sent out over the weekend to potential investors who have registered for the UK retail offer.

The offer, as expected, is open-priced, allowing investors to base their applications on the amount they wish to invest rather than the number of shares. The offer closes on December 6 and the price, expected to be between 233p and 268p, and the basis for allocation will be announced on December 8.

Over the coming week, application forms for the shares will be published in the national press. In addition, a chain of 12 share shops will handle the float.

Hercules future still up in the air

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS have called for further studies on the rival merits of buying an American or a European transport aircraft to replace the Royal Air Force's aging Hercules.

Reports to the Cabinet Overseas Policy and Defence Committee will review an unsolicited offer from British Aerospace, the aircraft and defence group, to take over management of the existing fleet of 60 Lockheed Hercules aircraft. They will also suggest how Britain can best fund its estimated £600 million share of the development costs of the European Future Large Aircraft.

But the Prime Minister has indicated, at a private meeting with Army commanders, that ministers are inclined to approve a Ministry of Defence proposal to buy 26 of the latest Hercules model, the C130J, to replace the older part of the RAF fleet.

However, the rest of the transport fleet is likely to be replaced by the FLA when it becomes available in 2001 or 2002. John Major is understood to have told officers at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst staff college at Camberley, Surrey.

The Government has come under strong diplomatic pressure from France and Germany to back the pan-European FLA programme. Both countries believe an RAF purchase of 35 planes is crucial to achieving the economies of scale needed to make the aircraft viable.

They also believe the development risks of the programme will be reduced if British Aerospace, Europe's expert in wing technology, is a partner.

North West Water joins forces with Bechtel



Sir Desmond Pitcher, left, and Riley Bechtel yesterday

BY ERIC REGULY

NORTH West Water has formed an alliance with the Bechtel Corporation of San Francisco, a privately owned construction firm famous for its worldwide presence and high-powered Republican connections.

The two companies will jointly pursue international water projects. Bechtel will be responsible for engineering and construction; North West for their operation.

As a result, North West proposes to sell its engineering division, which has 1,000 employees, to Bechtel for about £15 million.

Bechtel, a century-old company owned by its senior management and members of the Bechtel family, specialises in large construction projects, including harbours, dams and airports. It had revenues of $9.5 billion last year.

Board members include Charles Schulz, who was Secretary of State in the Reagan White House, and Carla Hills, the former United States Trade Representive.

Riley Bechtel, chief executive, and Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman of North West, said partnership talks began in secret 18 months ago and will continue for the next few months.

Separately, North West said interim pre-tax profits fell 1 per cent to £136.8 million, largely because of a £13.5 million writedown on its construction businesses. The dividend is up 8.9 per cent to 8.35p, payable on February 24.

The writedown and £13.4 million in advanced corporation tax pushed ordinary share earnings down 12.7 per cent to 34.3p. North West shares rose 9p to 529p.

Welsh Water, page 26
Tempus, page 28

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Mandarins mull over the VSEL options

So, against the backdrop of the peace dividend. GEC and BAe, the two major components of Britain's defence industry, are at war with each other. It is a fascinating battle, being waged on a variety of fronts embracing Westminster, Whitehall and the City. The war, ostensibly, centres on the corporate power play for control of VSEL, the Barrow-based manufacturer of the Trident submarine. This, however, is but an aspect of the far wider issue of the future of Britain's defence industry. Rationalisation of the defence business, worldwide, has been under way for more than a decade but has gathered momentum, witness the $10 billion merger, earlier this year, between Lockheed and Martin Marietta: a deal that ousted McDonnell Douglas as the world's largest defence combine.

Whichever contestant secures control of VSEL will emerge as a dominant force in naval wholeship prime contractorship. But this is but an aspect of the greater, cost driven, rationalisation game that lies ahead. Lord Weinstock, GEC's managing director, has long favoured a merger of GEC's defence interests with those of BAe. So, a year ago, did Dick Evans, BAe's chief executive, who, opining on the subject, declared: "It is not a matter of if, but when." The battle for VSEL appears to have brought about a change of attitude with Evans now preferring a revised: "Not a matter of when, but if." GEC, rich in liquidity, could, in theory, launch a full-scale takeover bid for BAe (plus or minus VSEL) but, despite the seductive efforts of certain City merchant bankers, this has never been GEC's preferred choice. Weinstock is financially suspicious of BAe's civil aircraft operations and has always favoured a pure defence amalgam. Talks to this end broke down last year but a two-year standstill agreement, which effectively prevents GEC from launching a hostile BAe sortie, remains in place until July 1995.

Those who disregard this backdrop run the risk of disregarding the political minefield that surrounds the VSEL affair. If Sir Bryan Carsberg, Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading, chose to recommend referral of GEC's bid for VSEL, but not BAe's offer, and if Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, chose to take his advice, the battle would be over. GEC's bid would lapse, BAe would automatically prove victorious. What if both bids were referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the brains trust at Carey Street vetoed GEC's offer? Then again, subject to Heseltine's whim, VSEL would go to BAe. But it is not merely the fate of a Barrow-in-Furness metal basher that is occupying the minds of those in Westminster and Whitehall. If GEC's bid for VSEL is scuppered, whither the option of a GEC/BAe defence amalgam? There was, presumably, some raison d'etre for the GEC/BAe talks last year, other than to provide *The Sunday Times* with an interesting story. A joint



MELVYN MARCKUS

GEC/BAe defence strategy may, or may not, be in the national interest but it is clearly an option. BAe, as it is now prone to hint, may look in the direction of Europe, rather than London's Stanhope Gate, for a defence partner. But are the likes of Heseltine and Malcolm Rifkind, Defence Secretary, prepared to abandon the option of an eventual GEC/BAe deal? After all, if GEC is prevented from acquiring VSEL, how could it subsequently be permitted to merge GEC Marconi with BAe's defence operations, complete with VSEL?

This, and other matters, will doubtless be debated at Monday's crucial gathering of mandarins representing the MoD, the DTI, the Treasury and the Scottish Office. As our *Pennington* column pointed out on Friday, endeavours will be made to present a collective view to Carsberg who has until December 7 to complete his recommendations on both bids for the perusal of Heseltine. Word has it that the MoD is not unsympathetic to Weinstock's claim that the prospect of maintaining genuine competition between Barrow and GEC's Yarrow yard is unrealistic. The Scottish Office appears to have bought BAe's red herring that the loss of VSEL will augur ill for the company's Jetstream operations at Prestwick, while the Treasury is concerned with the implications of monopoly muscle on the Exchequer's coffers. Heseltine, on past form, may well favour leaving VSEL's fate to market forces.

BAe stole the headlines, a little more than a week ago, with news of its £535 million two-tier "trombone" rights issue accompanied by revised share swap terms which, in the wake of last week's 4.3 per cent upsurge (adjusted for the rights) in BAe's share price to 452p, values VSEL at £565 million or £14.91p per share. GEC's £14 cash offer has been matched by BAe's cash alternative but the strength of VSEL's share price — 25p higher yesterday at £15.20p — clearly reflects expectations of a higher offer from GEC and, presumably, an eventual clearance from Heseltine.

On Thursday, GEC stole a headline in *The Times* which revealed that Weinstock has informed the MoD that GEC is prepared to guarantee the future of its Yarrow yard for at least seven years if its bid for VSEL proves successful. This represented a resounding rebuttal of BAe's claims that, should GEC secure control of the Barrow yard, the inevitable outcome would be the closure of Yarrow.

BAe's balance sheet has long been the subject of City scepticism and Richard Lapthorne, BAe's finance director, out of the Courtaulds stable, has been working overtime, in Whitehall and the City, to preach the gospel of recovery at BAe.

Lapthorne argues that, in less than three years, BAe has been refocused from a conglomerate to a defence and comercial aerospace enterprise. His key theme is that BAe's balance sheet and earnings quality has significantly improved, the result being the creation of a far greater level of confidence with the company's bankers.

To this end, he points to a Moody's/Standard & Poor's credit revision from a weak single A to a strong single A, the emergence of JP Morgan as a lender and the oversubscription to BAe's £1.5 billion revolving credit facility.

Let battle, in the market place, commence.

Lloyd's role for Gilmore

ROSALIND Gilmore, who is to step down as head of the Building Societies Commission at the end of the month, has been appointed director of regulation at Lloyd's of London.

Mrs Gilmore, once tipped to succeed Lord Kingsdown as Governor of the Bank of England, is to take up the Lloyd's post on December 12.

Lloyd's creation, last year, of a separate regulatory board was recommended in Sir Jeremy Morse's report on corporate governance at Lloyd's. Control of the market has passed to two new bodies, a market board overseeing business conduct and a regulatory board handling disciplinary matters, with a smaller, less influential, council presiding.

BEST FOR THE BUDGET

Our 12-page special pull-out section on Wednesday will detail how all the tax and public spending measures will affect you, your family and your employer. Analysis and commentary from our team of expert writers will put the Budget into perspective and explain how the markets react to the changes.

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Welsh Water's earnings flow blocked by Acer

BY ERIC REGULY

THE continued difficulties in Welsh Water's non-core business were highlighted yesterday when the group reported sharply lower earnings and announced a dividend increase that analysts said was "disappointing".

Pre-tax profit for the half year to September 30 fell to £49.4 million, from £77.3 million in the previous period. Earnings per ordinary share declined to 31.1p a share, from 49.2p. The shares were down 26p to 616p.

The company, led by Graham Hawker, chief executive, increased its interim dividend 9.8 per cent to 9.3p a share, payable on March 6. Daniel Martin, an analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, expected a higher payout but said the company's fairly strong balance sheet should allow it to achieve dividend growth of 7 per cent in the future.

Excluding exceptional items, Welsh Water's pre-tax earnings rose marginally to £77.9 million, while turnover increased 1.8 per cent to £259.9 million. Higher interest expense and two restructuring charges totalling £28.5 million were behind the depressed earnings.

Welsh Water took a charge of £17 million to boost efficiency on the regulated side, much of which will be used to fund job reductions. Some 230 employees are to leave in the current financial year and a further 180 in the next two years. So far, all the departures have been voluntary.

Another charge of £11.5 million was taken to overhaul Welsh Water's unregulated business, dominated by Acer, an engineering company. Its operating loss for the period was £2.8 million.

Welsh Water blamed cuts in the Government's highway investment programmes for the deficit. "Contracts were cancelled this year that we thought were secure," said Iain Evans, the chairman.

The charge will be used to "refocus" Acer, steering it away from low-margin projects such as site supervision, and funding forced redundancies. Acer has about 3,000 employees and expects to shed 400 by 1996.

Welsh Water was forced to write off £40 million of goodwill from Acer last year, soon after it was acquired for £50 million. The group insists it will keep the business. "It's worldwide reach is good," Mr Evans said. "It's a fantastic intelligence-gathering resource for us and we need it because we are evolving into a worldwide infrastructure development company." The company is to stick to infastructure projects such as toll roads. No substantial profits are expected from the division next year, Mr Evans said.

Tempus, page 28

HUW EVANS



Graham Hawker, chief executive of Welsh Water

Warburgs leads UK Telekom syndicate

BY OUR WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

CITY institutions have secured a handsome chunk of the business arising from the first DM15 billion tranche of Deutsche Telekom, Germany's state-owned telecommunications group, which is to be floated in early 1996.

The privatisation will be the second biggest in the world after the $70 billion disposal of Japan's Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) in the late 1980s. Telekom is worth an estimated DM92 billion.

Banks placing the initial tranche of Telekom shares are expected to earn about DM500 million marks from the business. After months of speculation, the German government yesterday declared the winners.

Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank, was chosen as global lead manager of the share sale, along with the two leading commercial banks, Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank, but Warburgs, the British merchant bank, secured sole leadership of the syndicate that will place 20 per cent of the shares on the UK market.

The US syndicate, which also has a 20 per cent share, will be jointly headed by Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch and Deutsche Bank, with leaders Morgan Stanley and Salomon Brothers.

Warburg's co-leaders in the UK will be Kleinwort Benson, National Westminster Bank and Deutsche Bank. Rothschild and Coopers & Lybrand have been named as advisers to Telekom.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

Stagecoach facing MMC investigation

STAGECOACH Holdings, the acquisitive bus operator, has been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for the fourth time after a dispute over bus services in north-east England involving Stagecoach's Busways operation.

The Office of Fair Trading has made the monopoly reference to the MMC, which will study competition between bus companies in Tyne & Wear, Durham and Cleveland. The referral follows complaints from other bus operators about alleged anti-competitive behaviour by Busways Travel Services, one of the largest bus operators in the area. The allegations include predatory pricing and overbussing with the intention of forcing the withdrawal from the market of competitors in Darlington and in South Shields. Brian Souter, the chairman, said Stagecoach welcomed the enquiry.

Alphameric acquisition

ALPHAMERIC, the computer equipment and information technology group, is buying the remaining 25 per cent in AlphaServ, the data concern, through the purchase of Ambrose Consultancy for £2.75 million in new shares, and is raising £885,000 for expansion. Alphameric made pre-tax profits of £323,000 (£178,000) for the six months to September 30, on turnover of £6.3 million (£5.28 million). Earnings were 0.8p (0.4p) a share. There is again no dividend.

Newspaper's profits up

BRISTOL Evening Post, the regional newspaper publisher, said there has been an improvement in advertising volumes but the situation remains uncertain. In the six months to September 30, pre-tax profits rose to £4.8 million, from £3.1 million. Trading profits, excluding property, rose to £2.3 million from £1.83 million. Earnings were 12.28p a share, rising from 8.47p. The interim dividend is increased to 4.5p a share from 4.25p, payable on January 27.

Ideal Hardware ahead

IDEAL Hardware, the distributor of computer storage products that was floated in July, lifted pre-tax profits 34 per cent, from £1.74 million to £2.34 million, in the half year to October 31, and has declared a 3.4p maiden interim dividend, as forecast in its flotation prospectus, payable on December 28. Earnings per share were 7.51p, up from 5.66p. The shares, issued at 225p, yesterday remained at 308p. Ideal said that trading has been strong through the summer.

DRS profit warning

DRS Data & Research Services, the scanning equipment group whose shares have slumped since flotation in April, has given warning that profits for this year's second half will not meet market expectations (Philip Pangalos writes).

Shares in DRS, which predominantly supplies the education market, were placed at 110p in April, but plunged from 96p to 46p in September after the company reported worse than expected maiden interim pre-tax profits of £1.48 million (£1.54 million). Yesterday, they touched a low of 23p, but ended unchanged at 30p.

DRS now says that there has been further deterioration in sales of its scanning equipment to schools, and second-half profits will only match those of the first half. The group expects to recommend a final dividend of 1p, making 2p for the year.

Malcolm Brighton, managing director, emphasised that operations were profitable, while net cash of £8.5 million was worth 25p a share alone.

Tempus, page 28

Rothmans beats City expectations

BY MARTIN WALLER

BOOMING sales in Britain and Japan, offset by a decline in Africa, were a feature of interim figures from Rothmans International, the cigarette producer, that beat City expectations and sent the shares sharply ahead.

The shares rose 17p to 440p, on pre-tax profits that climbed 18 per cent to £275.9 million.

The company, which did not pay a halfway dividend last time because of the complicated reconstruction of Rothmans and the Dunhill luxury goods group, is paying shareholders 7.5p at the interim stage this year.

The payment, out of earnings per stock unit ahead 14.5 per cent to 19.7p, will be made on January 24.

Operating profit at Rothmans was 13 per cent higher, at £254.2 million.

In addition, the pre-tax level benefited from the non-recurrence of £12 million of costs taken last time from the rationalisation of the group's European operations.

Tempus, page 28

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.18	1.99
Austria Sch	18.09	18.59
Belgium Fr	53.08	48.78
Canada $	2.251	2.091
Cyprus Cypt	0.776	0.729
Denmark Kr	10.13	9.33
Finland Mkk	8.09	7.39
France Fr	8.84	8.14
Germany Dm	2.58	2.37
Greece Dr	395.00	370.00
Hong Kong $	12.71	11.71
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Italy Lira	2615.00	2460.00
Japan Yen	168.00	152.00
Malta	0.615	0.560
Netherlds Gld	2.873	2.643
Norway Kr	11.24	10.44
Portugal Esc	259.00	240.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.26
Spain Pta	210.50	196.50
Sweden Kr	12.24	11.44
Switzerland Fr	2.19	2.01
Turkey Lira	refer	55200.0
USA $	1.658	1.528

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates for travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

The merger of the Halifax and Leeds building societies will create the largest retail bank in the country. But the basis for it comes down to something more simple. The Leeds directors want to make Yorkshire an important financial centre in its own right.

Business Focus, tomorrow

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The British Investment Trust PLC.

The British Investment Trust aims to achieve long term capital growth from a portfolio of international investments and secure for shareholders regular increases in dividend.

Company Half-Year Financial Highlights
as at 30th September (unaudited)

	1994	1993*
Net Asset Value Per Share	231p	220p
Ordinary Shareholders' Funds	£722m	£687m
Dividend Per Share	2.1p	2.0p

*Restated to reflect the change in accounting policy for dividend income from a payment date basis to an ex-dividend basis with effect from 1 April 1994.

To: The Secretary, The British Investment Trust PLC, Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD.

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Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of shares and income from them can fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount invested. Member of IMRO

SEARS: **Liam Strong and David Defty**

Troubleshooters tune in to be team players

Power

One plays bagpipes, the other piano, but the retailers find harmony in the boardroom, **Susan Gilchrist** says

An office can reveal a lot about its occupant. The choice of pictures, ornaments, and even furniture can speak volumes about the person who sits behind the desk. Interestingly, Gerald Ratner had a picture of Napoleon on his wall. Robert Maxwell, a man of copious appetite, opted for a giant marble and mahogany sideboard with in-built refrigerator and wine cooler.

As chief executive of Sears, one of Britain's most established retailers, one might reasonably expect Liam Strong's office to conform to the style favoured by many traditional corporate executives, with dark oak-panelled walls and gloomy oil paintings of dreary landscapes.

But conforming to accepted practice is anathema to Strong. His office is full of vibrant colour and activity. Bright modern paintings adorn the walls and a giant noticeboard studded with the latest news bulletins from the group's stores dominates one end of the room. In the midst of it all is Strong himself, dressed casually in an open necked shirt, looking every inch the model modern executive. It is the natural habitat of the man who, over the past two and a half years, has successfully turned one of the country's sleepier retail giants into a more dynamic creature. Across the hall is the office of David Defty, Sears's finance director. It is only a few steps away, but the contrast could not be greater. Aside from the one obligatory family photograph on the desk, the room is virtually bare. It probably looks much the same as it did the day he moved in. There is one interesting concession to decoration. A large, glossy advert for Warehouse, one of Sears's more trendy chains, featuring various upwardly nubile women in seductive poses, occupies the wall opposite Defty's desk. "I have asked the other fascias to send pictures," he says sheepishly. "But I don't think they can really compete."

Their environments may be very different, but the two men found they had a lot in common when they first met 18 months ago at a drinks party. Both have similar backgrounds — Strong, 49, at Reckitt & Colman, Defty, also 49, at Colgate-Palmolive — and they spent a while swapping stories. "It was just gossiping really," says Strong. "But then I come from Ireland and that's what people do in Ireland. It's an art form."

When Strong was forced to look for a new finance director a few months later, after the abrupt departure of Stephen Park, he immediately thought of Defty. Although Strong denies it, he was under pressure to make the right appointment, and Defty, who was then deputy finance director at Grand Metropolitan, was seen in the City as a safe pair of hands. Nevertheless, he still had to take a psychological profile test before he got the job, a standard part of the Sears recruitment procedure since Strong took over at the helm. Defty emerged as a strong team player — a better one, Strong concedes, than himself.

> "Generalship is not only about morale and leadership, it is also about caution"

"We do a thing called the Belbin test, which shows how you work in a team," says Strong. "Belbin says a team needs a *chairman*, who will not necessarily be the person in charge; a *shaper*, who is always rattling the cages; a *completer/finisher*, who gets things done; and a *plant*, who is the one who sits back and says 'Why don't we do it this way instead?' I'm a *shaper* and David has elements of *completer/finisher* and *plant*, which means he can take an interesting angle on things."

He believes their two styles fit together well. "I think the chief executive's job is to make impossible demands and it's the finance director's job to make those work. I've never felt it necessary to be absolutely reasonable," he says with a smile. This comes as no surprise. While Strong is immensely charming and affable, there is also an air of intensity about him.

He admits he is usually the one to take on the hard man role, while Defty is the soft man. "If there's a good guy/bad guy routine to be done, then David will tend to be the good guy and I will be the bad guy," says Strong. "He is more easy-going than I am, although he is very tough when he has to be."

Defty's easier-going nature is even reflected in his hobbies. He is an accomplished golfer, whereas Strong indulges in the more aggressive pastimes of sailing and shooting. Defty plays the piano while Strong, somewhat bizarrely, prefers the bagpipes. "It's actually quite an amiable instrument although you can never get people to believe that," he says. "I was in the school band and I used to walk up and down the garden at home in Ireland practising. They were originally the war pipes."

Strong's love of military history is well-known, although he is reluctant to talk about it these days, having been unfairly compared with Napoleon on more than one occasion. Significantly, it is not the battles or the weaponry that fascinate him, his real interest lies in the strategy. "I like it because it is a very simple way of looking at how people take decisions in real time. It is also about leading people." Although he clearly has the capacity to be aggressive when he needs to be, Strong believes in being more tactical.

"Generalship is not only about morale, leadership and clear-thinking, it is also, oddly enough, about caution. Most generals are more cautious than most business people. A lot of generals have successful careers by never fighting a battle, because if you fight a battle you might lose." A philosophy that perhaps lies behind Strong's own velvet revolution at Sears.

Defty is already playing a part in that. He had not been looking to leave GrandMet when Strong approached him about joining Sears, but after a few months he changed his mind. "The idea of working with Liam appealed to me," he says. "He was a very genuine, down-to-earth person who just wanted to find a partner to help him run the business. I didn't want to be just some old bean-counter, I wanted to be fully involved in running the business. It was that prospect that really made the difference, and it has worked out that way." Both men, unlike many of their retail rivals, spend a large part of their time in the stores. Indeed, their offices are located over Selfridges, Sears's flagship department store, only yards from Oxford Street, the busiest shopping street in Europe.

Once in the job, Defty found that he and Strong shared a similar approach to the business. Although both have worked for a glittering array of blue chip companies, including Guinness, Procter & Gamble and British Airways, Defty says neither of them are typical "big corporation" people. "We have both worked in huge companies, but I think what we have both had is international commercial troubleshooting roles," he says. He believes this ethic has rubbed off on Sears, which has more of a small business culture than its size would suggest.

There is certainly none of the hierarchy and self-importance evident in other large organisations, and Defty believes Strong is more democratic than the average chief executive. "He is, in fact, a very good listener. Normally, chief executives love the sound of their own voice and try to monopolise the discussion. Liam is good at making sure everyone has their say and feels they have put their ten cents' worth on the table."

Nevertheless, Defty admits Strong can be incredibly demanding. "We both have a pretty *high work ethic. But Liam's output* is unbelievable. He is forever coming up with new ideas, probing something and saying 'Well, why can't we do this better, or do it like this?'." Strong is clearly the sort of person who lives his working life as if there were not only no tomorrow but hardly anything left of today — and expects the same of those around him.

"At times, I would have been only too happy to metaphorically take his key out and let him run down a little," says Defty. "It's a challenge to keep up with him, but it's also part of the fun." The work load has taken its toll on Defty's golf handicap, which he reluctantly confesses has gone up from seven to nine in the past year.

Defty is a great admirer of Strong's ability to motivate the troops and rally those around him. "He is totally and genuinely enthusiastic about what he is doing and that is infectious. He is a real leader and a wonderful orator. He can evangelise and get everyone singing from the same hymn book." That has proved crucial in passing the message of change right down the organisation to the shop floor.

Although Defty shares Strong's passion for the business, he is still finding time for his piano lessons. He proudly reveals he can now play Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*. But how well can he play it? "My teacher has made it clear that I shouldn't give up my day job." Sears shareholders will be relieved to hear it.

PETER TRIEVNOR



David Defty, left, finance director, and Liam Strong, chief executive, at Sears's flagship store, Selfridges, where the pair are based

Matchmaker who could sway the reluctant brides of Leeds

Lindsay Cook and **Anne Ashworth** on the latest society engagement

HALIFAX

THE LEEDS



It remains to be seen whether Leeds members will queue to sign the merger deal

The proposed marriage of the Halifax and the Leeds was first discussed on a train headed from King's Cross to Leeds in March this year. Mike Blackburn, chief executive of the Halifax, met a former colleague from the Leeds in the corridor. The two men fell to talking about the future. It appeared that the two institutions had more in common than headquarters in West Yorkshire. By August, the duo, who today describe themselves as "natural partners", were close to an engagement. The societies say they are compatible in "culture and ethos".

Leeds members will need some persuasion before they agree to a takeover and to forgo a bonus. Mr Blackburn may be the only person who can win them over.

Rumours of the merger had been the topic of lunchtime talk in the City for some weeks. Even at a Halifax lunch, there was talk of little else, other than how they might persuade the members of a smaller society to accept a merger when Cheltenham & Gloucester investors are being offered up to £13,500 each to vote for the Lloyds takeover. The Halifax had hoped to keep the plans quiet for a few more weeks, but City gossip gained such momentum that it was forced to reveal the news.

Mr Blackburn is the driving force behind the offer of "jam the day after tomorrow" for 10 million plus savers and borrowers. Until February last year, he led the Leeds. He took charge there when the society was going nowhere, and raised its profile and profits. The fifth largest society has been without a chief executive since his departure. It tried in the autumn last year to replace him via the ill-fated merger with the National & Provincial Building Society, whose David O'Brien was to have taken the helm. The deal foundered and Mr O'Brien has since left the N&P.

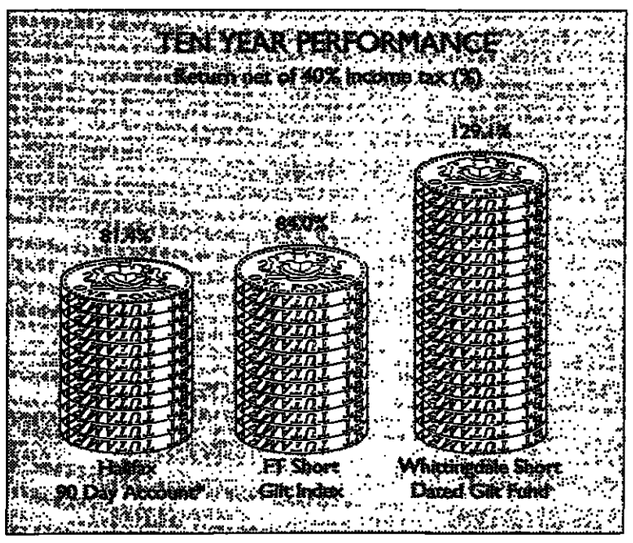
Mr Blackburn, the son of a "low church" Manchester family, came to the Leeds from Access, the credit card company. The slumbering society was resuscitated by him. It made the *Guinness Book of Records* for its charitable donations from an affinity credit card. More than £5 million has been raised for three charities via the Leeds Visa card.

Mr Blackburn has also won some headlines for himself. In December 1991, when the Government was forcing building societies and other mortgage lenders to agree its mortgage rescue scheme for people in arrears, it swore those involved in the negotiations to silence. But Mr Blackburn decided to speak out. He reminded the nation that it was John Major who, as Chancellor, had said of high interest rates, the source of the arrears problem, that if they were not hurting, they were not working.

His next challenge to the Government came over the 1991 Budget, which he described as the biggest building society robbery of all time. The Leeds challenged the Treasury in the High Court in an attempt to win back £57 million paid out when the rules on the taxation of interest on savings were changed. The Woolwich had taken the Revenue to the House of Lords and won a £70 million refund, plus interest. But the 1991 Budget blocked further claims. The Leeds wrote to its 3 million members, alerting them to the battle with the Government at a cost of £500,000. He gambled the money and lost, but knew that most members were keen to urge on anyone challenging the taxman.

Now, he is gambling with funds that Leeds members might hope to get if they were taken over. Such reserves would be freed up next year in the form of a one-off bonus of 5.6 per cent of savings, or a flat-rate bonus for members plus a percentage of savings. The proposed merger, or takeover by the Halifax, next year, followed two years later by conversion to a bank, is harder to sell to members, especially as the bonus is likely to be paid in shares in the converted company rather than cash in hand. It will take a folk hero that Leeds members trust. Mike Blackburn may be that man.

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

London shares stay flat as Wall Street rallies

NOT even a strong opening rally on Wall Street after the Thanksgiving celebrations was capable of breathing new life back into a tired and nervous-looking London stock market.

Investors were in no mood to open fresh positions ahead of Monday's vote of confidence in the House of Commons and the Budget on Tuesday. This was reflected in another disappointing day for the equity market where turnover levels continued to bump along the bottom. By the close of business, a modest 507 million shares had changed hands.

However, market-makers were able to take some advantage of an opening 36-point rise in the Dow Jones industrial average to allow prices in London to close above their lows of the day. The *FT-SE 100* index, down 22.3 points at one stage, eventually closed just 3.1 lower at 3,033.5. But it was an unremarkable performance, lacking in commitment. The index finished 96.5 points down on the week. The crisis over interest rates, which sent share prices falling sharply on both sides of the Atlantic this week, appears to have abated for now, but is certain to re-emerge before too long.

Speculative buying was again directed at **VSEL**, up 25p at £15.20 after shareholders voted to approve alterations to its articles of association, paving the way for **GEC** to bid. The speculators are now waiting to see if GEC, 3p easier at 274p, will come back with a higher offer. Only last week, **British Aerospace** *matched the £14 a share* cash terms currently being bid *by GEC. BAe finished 9p* better at 452p, still hoping for news of further lucrative aircraft orders.

News of the proposed merger between the Halifax and Leeds Permanent Building Society created a stir in the banking sector, reviving fears about overcapacity and increasing competition. There were losses for **Abbey National**, 3½p to 406p, **Bank of Scotland**, 3p to 202p, **Lloyds Bank**, 10p to 564p, and **National Westminster**, 7p to 499p. **TSB Group** held steady at 218½p.

Rothmans International *responded to better than expected first-half figures with a rise of 13p to 436p. The group* raised pre-tax profits almost 20 per cent to £275.9 million. The trading outlook for the rest of the year was described as satisfactory.

A disappointing first-half *performance left* **Welsh Water** 24p lower at 618p. Pre-tax profits were *less than 1 per* cent ahead at £77.9 million after being *hit* by restructuring charges of £17 million.

Meanwhile, **North West Water** is linking up with Bechtel, the *US* construction group, in order to expand its water and waste operations in North America. North West also reported first-half pre-tax profits, up from £163.9 million *to £176.4 million, and a near 9* per cent hike in the dividend. *The shares responded to the* news with a rise of 10p to 530p.

Shares in **Vistec** tumbled 6p to 13½p, or 30 per cent, after the group reported a drop in first-half profits and warned about a shortfall for the full year. Interim pre-tax profits dropped from £1.13 million to *£750,000 as margins came* under pressure after a poor *second quarter. Bob Morton*, chairman, blamed the *termination of a supply agreement*. The figures were also affected by poor *performances from* recent acquisitions. The *balance sheet continues to boast* cash of almost £4 million.

A profits warning also left **DRS Data & Research** 1p lower at 29p. The group says profits for the second half will not meet market expectations and are only likely to match *the £1.48 million made in the* first half.

Kleeneze, *the door-to-door* retailer, continued to reel from *Thursday's profits warning* with a fall of 36p to 102p, a two-day deficit of 54p.

Shoprite, the food retailer, fell 3p to 9½p after a meeting of preference shareholders to approve disposal of 117 stores *to Kwik Save for £45 million*. The company has rattled the *City with several profit* warnings during the past few *months and brokers say it* would almost certainly have *collapsed without the deal*.

Bakyrchik, the outfit *developing a gold mine in the* wastes of Kazakhstan, fell *another 14p to 260p* after hinting earlier in the week that *it may turn to shareholders* again for more cash. In *September, it raised £25 million* via a placing and open offer to *develop the mine*. The company has always insisted that *it needs up to £75 million* to develop the project and has no *intentions of coming back to* the market-place for at least another year.

Manchester United, still *smarting from defeat in the* European Cup by IFK *Gothenburg earlier this week*, fell a further 17p to 608p, extending *its loss to 31p. Sir Roland* Smith, chairman, told *shareholders at the annual meeting* yesterday that plans to expand *the Old Trafford stadium* were likely to cost a lot of money, and, *to help to pay for it, entry* fees may have to be increased. The club lost capacity by converting its ground to an all-seater stadium, and must expand to make up the capacity.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Prices spent most of the session shadowing German bunds which opened lower before putting in a late burst on the back of short covering, enabling prices in London to close above their worst of the day. Trading conditions generally were described as thin.

The Bank of England has decided to push ahead with next month's auction in spite *of the forthcoming Budget*, with final details being *published first thing on Wednes*day. Brokers are forecasting a further tranche of Treasury 8½ per cent 2005 being issued.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt closed £⅛ lower at £103$\frac{5}{32}$ in modest turnover which saw 35,000 contracts completed. In the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent firmed three ticks to £105⅜, while at the shorter end, Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was £$\frac{5}{32}$ easier at £104$\frac{1}{16}$.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares continued their post-Thanksgiving seasonal bounce. The Dow Jones industrial average *added 37.34 points to stand at* 3,711.97 at midday.



Underground in Bakyrchik's mines in Kazakhstan

Commercial Union continued to respond favourably to a buy recommendation from Smith New Court, the broker, with a rise of 8p to 530p. Smith is confident that in spite of City scepticism Groupe Victoire will make adequate returns on capital. It believes that the premium rating for the shares is fully justified.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Bakyrchik	260p	-25p	Further funding required?
Vistec	13½p	-6½p	Profits setback
Kleeneze	105p	-51p	Profits warning
Atreus	13p	+4p	*Bill Rooney stages comeback*
Manchester United	608p	-30p	Cup defeat, higher prices
Hazlewood	106p	-14p	Dull ahead of figures
Moran Holdings	58p	+4p	Return to profit
Baris Holdings	35p	+7p	Boardroom reshuffle
J. Billam	114p	-37p	Profits warning

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	3711.97 (+37.34)
S&P Composite	452.75 (+2.82)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	18666.93 (-34.31)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	8658.83 (+10.97)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	406.45 (-0.36)

Sydney:

AO	1910.0 (+24.3)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2051.62 (-4.35)

Singapore:

Straits	2237.75 (+1.35)

Brussels:

General	7196.75 (+10.92)

Paris:

CAC-40	1945.89 (+11.21)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	651.80 (+3.00)

London:

FT 30	2323.3 (-3.6)
FT 100	3033.5 (-3.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	3480.3 (-0.9)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1328.77 (-1.18)
FT A All-Share	1509.03 (-1.25)
FT Non Financials	1629.53 (-0.84)
FT Gold Mines	238.8 (+0.1)
FT Fixed Interest	108.89 (-0.06)
FT Govt Secs	92.09 (-0.24)
Bargains	17146
SEAQ Volume	536.4m
USM (Datastrm)	154.40 (+0.23)
US$	1.5630 (+0.0012)
German Mark	2.4362 (+0.0021)
Exchange Index	79.8 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2745
£:SDR	unq
RPI	145.2 Oct (2.4%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust Latin Am	84	...
Abtrust Latin Wts	48	...
Adare Prntg	192	...
Ashbourne (150)	147	+1½
BZW Commodities (100)	85½	...
BZW Commodities Wts	37	...
Calluna	85	-1
Churchill China (280)	285	...
Eucidian (100)	102	...
Eurovein (141)	143	...
Fidelity Spec V Uts	487	...
Filtronic Comtek	158	-5
Finsbry Sml Cos C (100)	100	...
For & Col Emrg C (100)	101	+ ½
H Gov 1000 Inv (100)	101	...
INVESCO Korea C	97	...
Irish Permanent (180)	221	...
JJB Sports (215)	231	...
SeaPerfect (120)	137	+8
TLG (115)	125	...
Tele-Cine Cell (170)	165	...
Wellington Under (100)	102	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Apollo Metals n/p (77)	2	...
Laird Group n/p (295)	34	-1
Martin Int n/p (27)	2½	...
OMI n/p (37)	3	...
Pressac n/p (85)	6	...
Seton Health n/p (285)	40	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Tay Homes	168p (+9p)
Antofagasta	338p (+13p)
Rothmans	440p (+17p)
A Kershaw	890p (+10p)
Phonelink	235p (+17p)
Thomson Corp	725p (+10p)
British Aerospace	452p (+9p)
Commercial Union	530p (+8p)

FALLS:

Lloyds	584p (-10p)
Kleeneze	105p (-33p)
J Billam	114p (-9p)
Man United	608p (-17p)
Portsmouth Sund	620p (-10p)
Ferguson Int	321p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS

Purified water

NORTH West Water is, in a sense, getting back to basics. It is unloading its loser construction businesses and selling its engineering division to the Bechtel Corporation, one of the world's largest construction firms. Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman of North West, expects Bechtel to pay about £15 million. Shareholders took note of the cleaner company and bid up the shares 9p, to 529p.

Indeed, the diversification efforts of the privatised water utilities have been largely disastrous. Yesterday, for example, Welsh Water took an £11.5 million provision to pay for the mess at Acer, the construction subsidiary with 3,000 staff that is not building many roads at the moment. The failing Acer experiment helped to drive down Welsh Water's pre-tax interim profits to £49.4 million (£77.3 million). Not surprisingly, the stock plummeted 25p to 617p. North West is not abandoning diversification, however. It is merely going about it in a different way. It has formed an alliance with Bechtel to tackle water projects around the world.

Bechtel will engineer and construct them: North West will act as operator, something it knows more about. As far as shareholders are concerned, the importance of the deal is not so much the alliance's future profit potential. Instead, at a single blow, North West has eliminated its engineering and construction risks. Bechtel is far more accustomed to the terrifying size of contract risk, and its financial strength and commercial muscle should enhance the chance of winning contracts. The risks and regulatory pressures in the water business are quite enough for any company.

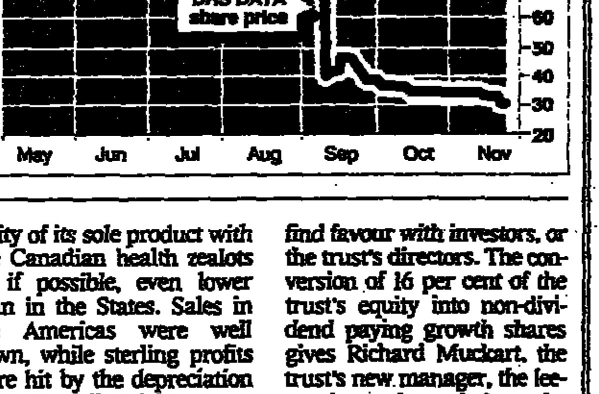
DRS Data

THE City has become so fed up with new issues that fail to live up to promises in prospectuses that they give any culprits a thorough drubbing. DRS Data is the latest victim of such thuggery, with its shares at 30p, compared with their 110p flotation price of last May.

Admittedly, DRS has brought much of this on itself. Its interim profits fell 4 per cent, and yesterday it said it would only break even for the second half because of schools deferring investment in the group's scanning equipment.

But the behaviour of the share price suggests that the rot may have gone far enough. The bad news sent *the shares down to 23p, but* they soon bounced back to be *unchanged on the day. After* all, the company has net cash of £8.5 million, worth 25p per share, while the yield on the promised current-year dividend of 2p is 8.3 per cent.

Of course, all the cash could evaporate if the company slides into losses. But DRS has proprietary products that schools need. The company would do well to invest some of its funds in an acquisition to broaden its product range and customer base. New issues that disappoint the market so soon after flotation should not be forgiven easily, but the fall in DRS's shares looks to have gone too far. Investors who are not afraid of risk should follow the example of DRS's founder and managing director and pick some shares up at this price.



Rothmans

THE health police can relax. The sharp upturn in British cigarette consumption has more to do with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's diary than a booming trade in the pernicious weed. The March Budget last year, followed by a trough in sales as addicts broke into stockpiles bought beforehand, was not repeated *in 1994, and Rothmans'* European operation were *also helped by price rises this* year in France.

While Rothmans' business in Japan is not as yet profitable because of the heavy spending required to boost the company's market share above 1 per cent, the gains made there helped to drive sales from Asia ahead by 11 per cent, while a 29 per cent profits rise came after improvements in Malaysia.

Rothmans, the stock market's only pure tobacco play, enjoys the advantage of a minimal exposure to the US *market, although the popularity of its sole product with* the Canadian health zealots is, if possible, even lower than in the States. Sales in the Americas were well down, while sterling profits were hit by the depreciation of the Canadian dollar.

The problem for investors is the scarcity of the shares, with 61 per cent held by Richemont. They are now selling on 11 times this year's *earnings*, which would seem about right on fundamentals. *But re-inclusion in the FT All-Share Index in the new year should prompt some year-*end institutional buying.

British Assets Trust

IVORY & Sime has found an ingenious escape route from a rock and a hard place. Past mismanagement of the British Assets Trust has left it unable to support its dividend without eroding its capital base. The obvious but painful answer would be a dividend cut, *but that would hardly find favour with investors, or* the trust's directors. The conversion of 16 per cent of the trust's equity into non-dividend paying growth shares gives Richard Muckart, the trust's new manager, the leeway he needs to rebalance the portfolio. The trust will no longer be forced to invest in high yield, poor performing shares such as British Gas to maintain its dividends, but can look *further down* the yield table and overseas for *investments with greater capital growth prospects.*

While private investors are unlikely to want the growth shares, they should not prevent institutions taking advantage of the offer, since it will protect their own income at the cost of some dilution in seven years' time.

British Assets is not the only income trust suffering from low dividend growth, so the scheme may well be used as a model by others with similar pressures.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	973-972	Mar	1043-1042
Mar	997-986	May	1053-1051
May	991-990	Jul	1063-1062
Jul	998-997	*Sep*	1074-1073
Sep	1010-1009		
Dec	1026-1025	Volume:	2101

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	2930-2929	Jul	2905-2900
Jan	2988-2987	Sep	2891-2890
Mar	2947-2945	Nov	2885-2875
May	2920-2916	Volume:	1166

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	363.0-61.5
Spot: 417.00		Dec	362.4-57.5
Mar	410.2-09.5	Mar	362.0-57.0
May	403.2-02.5	May	361.4-55.0
Aug	393.1-92.5	Volume:	1620

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 24

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	82.02	107.16	119.59
(+/-)	+1.40	+1.07	+0.21
Eng/Wales:	82.24	107.47	118.80
(+/-)	+4.57	+1.38	+0.34
(%)	-1.0	-3.0	-1.0
Scotland:	68.03	105.73	123.57
(+/-)	-4.90	-0.37	-0.37
(%)	+37.0	+20.0	-4.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.00	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Jan)	17.20	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Feb)	17.00	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	Closed	--
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	Closed	--

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 169 (n/c)	O: 171 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	152 (n/c)	154 (n/c)
Non EEC IH Dec	152 (n/c)	154 (n/c)
Non EEC IH Jan	155 (n/c)	158 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	99 (-2)	100 (-2)
Naphtha	180 (-2)	183 (-2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Dec	151.75-52.00	Mar	157.00 SLR
Jan	*154.50-54.75*	*Apr*	*155.25-55.75*
Feb	156.25 BID		Vol: 7931

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	17.17-17.19	Apr	16.82 BID
Feb	17.00-17.01	May	unq
Mar	*16.90-16.93*		*Vol: 15853*

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	105.20	Jan	102.50
Mar	107.10	Mar	104.25
May	109.10	May	106.95
Jul	110.90	*Sep*	93.50
Sep	94.75	Nov	95.00
Volume: 150		Volume: 0	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	unq
Apr	284.0	285.5
May	unq	305.0
		Volume: 219

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jan 82.00-82.50

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 94	1935	1936	1929
Jan 95	1835	1824	1835
Apr 95	1735	1729	1732
Jul 95	—	—	1505
Vol: 76 lots		Open Interest:	3075

Index 1906 +11

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2856.0-2857.0	2826.0-2827.0	1357425
Lead ($/tonne)	667.00-667.50	685.00-686.00	149625
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	*1147.5-1148.0*	1174.0-1174.5	419635
Tin ($/tonne)	6110.0-6120.0	6193.0-6195.0	12875
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1882.0-1883.0	1895.5-1896.5	1605175
Nickel ($/tonne)	*7620.0-7625.0*	*7750.0-7755.0*	85782

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Dec 94	3027.0	3047.0	3009.0	3035.0	7682
Previous open interest: 60967	Mar 95	3045.5	3045.5	3027.5	3049.5	847
FT-SE250	Dec 94				3475.0	0
Previous open interest: 5357	Mar 95				3512.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 94	93.76	93.76	93.70	93.71	12221
Previous open interest: 515454	Mar 95	93.06	93.06	92.98	92.99	19145
	Jun 95	92.46	92.46	92.36	92.39	5849
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 94				93.94	0
Previous open interest: 4647	Mar 95	93.39	93.39	93.39	93.39	2
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 94	94.84	94.84	94.82	94.83	7731
Previous open interest: 734359	Mar 95	94.75	94.75	94.70	94.73	19545
Long Gilt	Dec 94	103-15	103-16	102-27	103-05	35320
Previous open interest: 119432	Mar 95	102-24	102-24	102-04	102-15	5040
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 94	108.73	108.73	108.63	108.64	8
	Mar 95	108.09	108.10	107.96	107.96	1424
German Gov *Bd Bund*	Dec 94	91.30	91.61	91.18	91.48	117183
Previous open interest: 207987	Mar 95	90.50	90.80	90.40	90.72	17787
Three month ECU	Dec 94	94.11	94.11	94.08	94.09	697
Previous open interest: 24029	Mar 95	93.84	93.84	93.82	93.82	802
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 94	96.02	96.02	95.98	95.99	2048
Previous open interest: 45641	Mar 95	95.73	95.76	95.72	95.75	3215
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 94	101.35	101.42	100.54	100.76	32106
Previous open interest: 58479	Mar 95	100.35	100.35	99.60	99.75	1207

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 4¾ Low 4 Week fixed: 4 13/16

Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 5 11/16; 3 mth 5 13/16. Sell: 2 mth 5⅝; 3 mth: 5¾.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 11/16-5 9/16	5 13/16-5¾	5 15/16-5⅞	6¼-6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	5 11/16-5 9/16	5⅞-5 13/16	6-5 15/16	6½-6 7/16	7¼-7⅛
Interbank:	5 11/16-5 9/16	5⅞-5 13/16	6-5 15/16	6½-6 7/16	7¼-7⅛

Overnight: open 4¾, close 4½.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5¾	n/a	5 15/16	6½	7¼
Sterling CDs:	5¾-5⅝	5 13/16-5¾	5 15/16-5⅞	6½-6 7/16	7¼-7
Dollar CDs:	5.47	n/a	5.84	6.17	6.83
Building Society CDs:	5 11/16-5 9/16	5⅞-5 13/16	6-5 15/16	6½-6 7/16	7¼-7⅛

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £1,216m allotted: £350m; Bids: £98.57% received: 71%; Last week: £98.59% received: 55%; Avge rate: £5.7182% last wk £5.6236%; Next week: £350m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5½-5	5⅝-5½	5 11/16-5 9/16	6¼-6⅛	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	5⅛-5	5-4 15/16	5-4 15/16	5¼-5⅛	5-4
French Franc:	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⅞-5¾	5¼-4¾
Swiss Franc:	3 15/16-3¾	3 15/16-3¾	4-3⅞	4⅜-4¼	4½-3½
Yen:	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2⅜-2¼	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $384.50-384.90 Close: $384.80-385.30 High: $384.85-385.35 Low: $384.00-384.50 AM: $384.55 PM: $384.85

Krugerrand: $387.50-389.50 (£248.00-250.00)

Platinum: $410.50 (£262.65) Silver: $5.18 (£3.305) Palladium: $154.10 (£98.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Nov 25	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7247-2.7329	2.7283-2.7317	¼pr-par	¾-½pr
Brussels	50.06-50.21	50.09-50.19	5-1pr	15-6pr
Copenhagen	9.5240-9.5540	9.5380-9.5530	¼-¾ds	¼-¾ds
Dublin	1.0140-1.0170	1.0141-1.0168	2pr-par	8-3pr
Frankfurt	2.4317-2.4390	2.4357-2.4390	¼pr-par	¾-½pr
Lisbon	248.28-249.25	248.53-249.17	70-90ds	232-265ds
Madrid	203.14-203.58	203.28-203.58	32-36ds	94-100ds
Milan	2520.50-2530.60	2527.30-2530.60	5-6ds	16-18ds
Montreal	2.1474-2.1540	2.1510-2.1540	0.07pr-par	0.15-0.05pr
New York	1.5624-1.5640	1.5630-1.5640	0.01pr-par	0.02pr-par
Oslo	10.6720-10.7040	10.6720-10.6870	¼-¾pr	2¼-3¼ds
Paris	8.3550-8.3800	8.3650-8.3800	¼pr-par	1-¾pr
Stockholm	11.6440-11.6870	11.6630-11.6870	1¼-2¼ds	5¼-6¾ds
Tokyo	153.88-154.39	154.09-154.36	¾-¼pr	1¾-1¼pr
Vienna	17.12-17.18	17.14-17.18	1¼-¼pr	5-2¼pr
Zurich	2.0576-2.0680	2.0650-2.0680	¾-¼pr	1¾-1pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	550	16½	29½	36	16½	24½	37½
(*552½)	600	3	11½	16½	50½	59½	70
Argyll	260	14	23	28½	8	13½	19½
(*268½)	280	4½	13½	19	19½	24½	31
ASDA	60	7	9	10	1½	3	4
(*65)	70	2	3½	5½	6½	8½	9
Boots	460	43½	55	61½	3½	7	13
(*490½)	500	17	29½	37½	16½	22	29½
Br Airways	360	22½	34½	41½	8½	16	24
(*374½)	390	8½	20½	27½	25	32	40
BP	390	33½	41	48	3½	10	14½
(*416½)	420	14	23½	31	14	22½	27
Br Steel	140	15	19½	23	2	4½	7
(*152)	160	4	9	12½	11	14	16½
C & W	360	26½	38	47½	8½	16	23
(*378)	390	11½	23	33	23½	31	38½
CU	493	45½	52	—	4½	16	—
(*530)	543	14½	24	—	24	41½	—
ICI	700	59	69½	78½	5	20½	27
(*747)	750	26	38½	50½	21½	43½	50
Kingfishr	460	23	36	42	13½	22	32
(*464½)	500	7½	19	24½	38	44½	55½
Land Sec	550	48	57½	64½	2½	7	14½
(*598)	600	13	26½	33½	19	24½	37½
M & S	390	19½	30	36	7	12	19½
(*398½)	420	5½	16	21	24½	27½	35
Nat West	460	47	55½	63	4	16	21
(*499)	500	19½	31	41	17	34	40
Sainsbury	390	26	39	45½	7	13½	20½
(*407)	420	10	22½	29½	20½	28	35½
Shell	650	52	60	67	3	12½	16½
(*694)	700	17½	27½	37	19	34½	38½
Smkl Bch	420	18	29	37	13	23½	29
(*421)	460	4½	13½	20½	41½	48	52½
Storehse	200	16½	21½	25½	3	6	9
(*214½)	220	5	10½	15	12½	15½	19½
Trafalgar	80	5	7½	10	4	6½	7½
(*81)	90	1½	3½	6	11	12½	13½
Unilever	1100	39½	55	68	21½	42½	54
(*1102½)	1150	14½	31½	46	52½	72½	83
Zeneca	800	61	74½	84	7	23½	30
(*847)	850	28½	44½	56	24½	46	53
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met.	360	34½	39½	45	8	12½	17
(*386½)	390	16½	23	29½	22	26½	31½
Ladbroke	140	21½	24½	27	2	6	7
(*157)	160	9½	13	16½	9½	15	16
Utd Bisc	300	23	30	34	6	15	18
(*314)	330	8½	15½	20½	21	32	35

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	475	32	44	—	4½	9	—
(*499½)	500	16	28½	35½	13	18½	24½
Thames W	460	33½	46	54½	6	12	21½
(*484)	500	11½	23½	33½	23½	30½	42
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	420	36½	43	46	9½	21	27
(*441)	460	16	22	27½	28½	42½	46½
BTR	280	17½	22½	27½	9	15½	18½
(*285)	300	9	13½	18½	20	27½	29½
Br Aero	448	31	44	—	22½	34	—
(*450½)	487	15	28	—	46	57	—
Br Telcm	360	21½	29½	34½	9	13½	19½
(*374)	390	7½	16	20½	27	30	36
Cadbury	420	35	31½	38½	9½	19½	23½
(*430)	460	8	14	21	33	44	46½
Guinness	420	44	51½	55	2½	10	13
(*456)	460	17½	26	31½	14	26½	30
GEC	260	19	25½	30	5½	8	12½
(*273½)	280	8½	15	19½	15	17½	22½
Hanson	220	12½	16½	19	6½	11	14½
(*227½)	240	4½	8	10½	18½	22½	26
LASMO	140	10½	15½	18½	5½	8	9½
(*144)	160	3	7	10	18	19½	20½
Lucas	200	12½	17	22	9½	14	16½
(*200½)	220	5	9	13½	22	26	28½
Pilkngtn	160	21	25	27½	1½	3	5
(*179½)	180	8	12½	16	8	10	12½
Prudential	300	22½	27	30½	7	15	17
(*312)	330	8	12	16½	22½	32	34
Redland	460	30	38	42½	14½	30	34½
(*468½)	500	12½	20	25	37½	55½	59
R-Royce	160	23	26	29	2½	6	8
(*178)	180	10½	14	18	9½	14½	17
Tesco	240	14	19½	21½	8	14½	17½
(*242½)	260	5½	10	12½	20	26	29
Vodafone	183	16½	—	—	5½	—	—
(*193½)	200	8	13	17	14	17	20
Williams	330	27	34½	38	5	13	14
(*347½)	360	10	19½	22½	18	28	39

FT-SE INDEX (*3032)

	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150
Calls						
Dec	157	118	82	52½	31½	18½
Jan	189	152½	121	92	68½	47½
Feb	206½	169½	140	111	88	67
Mar	216½	183	153½	124	101½	80
Jun	252	—	192½	—	142	—
Puts						
Dec	19	29½	46	68	98½	136½
Jan	43	58½	77½	99	127	157
Feb	53	67½	88½	110	138	167
Mar	71	87	107½	127½	155½	184½
Jun	89½	—	128½	—	178	—

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	390	21½	32½	37½	3½	14½	21½
(*406½)	420	5½	16½	22½	17½	31	38
Amstrad	30	2	3½	4½	1½	3	4
(*30)	35	0½	1½	2½	5	6½	7
Barclays	550	41½	57	63½	3	15½	21½
(*566)	600	10½	27½	37½	21½	39½	46½
Blue Circ	280	18	27½	32½	4½	9½	16½
(*293½)	300	6½	17	22	12	18½	26½
Br Gas	280	17½	26	32	1½	6	13½
(*295)	300	5	14½	21	9	14	23½
Dixons	180	10	16	22	4½	9	14½
(*185)	200	2½	7½	13	16½	21	26
Forte	220	10	16	22½	4	8	14
(*226)	240	1½	8½	13	15½	19	25
Hillsdwn	160	9½	14	17½	2	5½	10
(*167)	180	1	5	8½	13½	16	22
Lonrho	140	15	19	23	1	5	7
(*153½)	160	3½	8½	12½	9½	14	17
Sears	100	7½	10½	12	1	3½	5½
(*105½)	110	2	5½	7	5½	8	11
Thrn Emi	950	34½	52½	76½	11	23	34½
(*974)	1000	9	28½	49½	40½	50	59½
Tomkins	220	7½	14½	21	5	11	14½
(*222½)	240	1	6½	12½	18	23	26
TSB	200	20	24	27½	0½	5½	8½
(*218½)	220	6	12	16	6½	14½	15
Wellcome	650	32	55	70½	13	29½	44½
(*661)	700	9	31½	47	41	56	71
Series		Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo	600	39	53½	67	14½	30½	38
(*620)	650	14½	30	43½	40½	57½	65
HSBC	700	39½	56½	68½	20½	43	52
(*715)	750	17½	33½	46½	47	72½	81
Reuter	460	25	36	46	11	22½	27½
(*469½)	500	8	18½	28	34½	44½	49½
Series		Feb	May	Jul	Feb	May	Jul
Royal Ins	280	21	27	32	12	18½	21
(*285½)	300	12	18½	23	23	30	32½
Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	110	11½	17	19½	2½	5½	8
(*119)	120	3½	12	15	6½	10	13
Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastern Gp	730	39	75½	90½	22	33½	55
(*788½)	800	32	49	64	46½	56	77
Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	460	36½	49½	59½	3½	13	19
(*496)	500	8	25	37	14½	29½	37
Scot Pwr	330	21½	29½	30½	4½	14	20
(*345½)	360	6	15	25½	19	30	36

November 25, 1994 Tot: 21026 Call: 9649 Put: 11377 FT-SE Call: 4218 Put: 7779

*Underlying security price.

Australia	1.3170-1.3178
Austria	10.96-10.97
Belgium (Com)	32.06-32.07
Canada	1.3755-1.3760
Denmark	6.1040-6.1070
France	5.3540-5.3550
Germany	1.5585-1.5595
Hong Kong	7.7312-7.7322
Ireland	1.5390-1.5405
Italy	1616.75-1617.75
Japan	98.61-98.66
Malaysia	2.5570-2.5580
Netherlands	1.7464-1.7469
Norway	6.8415-6.8435
Portugal	159.16-159.26
Singapore	1.4650-1.4657
Spain	130.12-130.17
Sweden	7.4654-7.4754
Switzerland	1.3206-1.3211

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5608-1.5634
Australia dollar	2.0578-2.0598
Bahrain dinar	0.5825-0.5945
Brazil real*	1.3296-1.3336
Cyprus pound	0.7375-0.7475
Finland markka	7.4195-7.5355
Greece drachma	371.25-378.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.0800-12.0854
India rupee	48.51-49.47
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4645-0.4725
Malaysia ringgit	3.9953-3.9982
Mexico peso	5.33-5.43
New Zealand dollar	2.5181-2.5210
Pakistan rupee	47.43 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7945-5.9205
Singapore dollar	2.2891-2.2909
S Africa rand (fin)	6.4786-6.5297
S Africa rand (com)	5.5238-5.5321
U A E dirham	5.673-5.797

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

3i	1,000	Legal & Gn	703
ASDA Gp	5,500	Lloyds Bk	3,300
Abbey Natl	3,800	MEPC	87
Alld Dom	1,900	Marks Spr	7,500
Argyll Gp	1,600	NatWst Bk	3,200
Arjo Wiggn	2,400	Nat Power	2,500
AB Foods	126	Nth Wst W	2,500
BAA	1,000	P & O	648
BAT Inds	1,700	Pearson	663
BOC	202	PowerGen	752
BP	11,000	Prudential	3,400
BTR	8,900	RMC	529
BT	10,000	RTZ	2,600
Bk of Scot	1,500	Rank Org	1,600
Barclays	2,900	Reckitt Col	717
Bass	1,400	Redland	885
Blue Circle	2,300	Reed Intl	707
Boots	833	Rentokil	550
Bowater	317	Reuters	1,500
Brit Aero	2,300	Rolls Royce	2,800
Brit Airwys	1,200	Ryl Ins	1,600
Brit Gas	3,800	Ryl Bk Scot	1,500
Brit Steel	9,300	Sainsbury	2,700
Burmah Cast	101	Schroders	23
Cable Wire	5,200	Scot & New	146
Cadbury	1,400	Scot Power	3,000
Caradon	858	Sears	7,000
Carlton Cms	588	Svrn Trent	446
Cml Union	843	Shell Trans	3,300
Courtaulds	1,500	Siebe	1,600
De La Rue	43	SmKl Bch	1,000
Eastern Elec	870	Smith Nph	6,000
Enterpr Oil	323	Sthrn Elec	1,200
Forte	1,600	Std Chartd	2,800
GKN	146	Sun Allnce	3,300
GRE	694	TI Gp	1,000
GUS	773	TSB	1,700
Gen Acc	327	Tesco	927
Gen Elec	1,900	Thames W	2,800
Glaxo	5,300	Thrn EMI	279
Granada	1,600	Tomkins	2,600
Grand Met	5,700	*Unilever*	2,600
Guinness	2,800	Utd Bisc	1,000
HSBC	1,500	Vodafone	5,700
Hanson	10,000	Warburg (SG)	586
ICI	1,500	Wellcome	1,000
Inchcape	3,300	Whitbread	1,400
Kingfisher	2,200	Wlms Hld	537
Ladbroke	937	Wolseley	816
Land Secs	586	Zeneca	1,200

	Nov 25 midday	Nov 23 close		Nov 25 midday	Nov 23 close		Nov 25 midday	Nov 23 close
AMP Inc	70¼	70	Enron Corp	29¼	29	Owens Corning	28¾	28
AMR Corp	52¼	50	Entergy	23¼	22¾	PNC Financial	20¾	20¾
AT & T	50	50	Ethyl Corp	10¼	10	PPG Industries	34¼	33¾
Abbott Labs	31½	31¼	Exxon	60¾	60½	Paccar Inc	41	41
Advanced Micro	25¾	24⅞	FMC Corp	59¾	58¾	Pacificorp	18¾	18⅝
Aetna Life	43¾	43¾	FPL Group	34¾	34¾	Pac Enterprises	21¼	21¼
Ahmanson (HF)	16¾	16⅝	Federal Express	58	57¾	Pac Gas & Elect	23¾	23½
Air Prod & Chem	43¾	43¾	Fed Nat Mtge	72¾	71¾	Pac Telesis	29¾	29¾
Albertson's	29¾	29¾	First Chicago	47¾	47¾	Pall Corp	17¾	17¾
Alcan Alumnm	23¾	23	First Interstate	73¾	71¾	Panhandle East	20¾	20¾
Alco Standard	55¾	54	First Union Rly	6¾	6¾	Parker Hannifin	42¾	42¾
Allied Signal	31¾	30¾	Fleet Fnl Grp	31	31¾	Peco Energy	24¾	24¾
Alum Co of Am	80¾	78	Fluor Corp	42¾	41¾	Penney (JC)	47¾	48¾
Amax Gold Inc	6¾	6¾	Ford Motor	27¾	27¾	Pennzoil	47¾	46¾
Amerada Hess	45¾	45¾	*GTE Corp*	30¾	30¾	Pepsico	35¾	35¾
Amer Brands	33¾	33	Gannett	47¾	49¾	Pfizer	73¾	72¾
Amer El Power	33¾	33	Gap Inc Del	35¾	35¾	Phelps Dodge	55¾	55¾
Amer Express	29¾	29¾	Gen Dynamics	38¾	38¾	Philip Morris	60¾	60¾
Amer Genl Corp	26¾	26	Gen Electric	46¾	46	Phillips Pet	33¾	32¾
Amer Home Pr	62¾	62¾	Gen Mills	55¾	55¾	Pitney Bowes	33¾	33¾
Amer Intl	91¼	91¾	Gen Motors	38	37¾	Polaroid	30¾	31¼
Amer Stores	26¾	26¾	Gen Reinsurance	113¾	113¾	PriceCostco	14¾	14¾
Ameritech	40	40	Gen Signal	34¾	34¾	Procter & Gmbl	62¾	62
Amoco	60¾	60¾	Genuine Parts	35¾	34¾	Providian	30¾	30¾
Anheuser-Busch	49¾	49¾	Georgia Pac	67¾	67¾	Pub Serv E & G	26¾	26¾
Apple Computer	37¾	36¾	Gillette	72¾	72	Quaker Oats	62¾	61¾
Archer Daniels	28¾	28¾	Glaxo ADR	19¾	19¾	Ralston Purina	42¾	42¾
Armco	6	6	Goodrich (BF)	42¾	42¾	Raychem Corp	34¾	34¾
Armstrng Wrld	38¾	39	Goodyear Tire	32¾	32¾	Raytheon	63	63
Asarco	26	26	Grace (WR)	37¾	37¾	Reebok Intl	35¾	37¾
Ashland Oil	34¾	35¾	Gt Atl Pac Tea	22	22¾	Reynolds Metals	47¾	47¾
Atl Richfield	103¾	102¾	Great Wstn Fin	16¾	16¾	Roadway Srvcs	50	50¾
Auto Data Pro	56	55¾	Halliburton	33¾	34	Rockwell Intl	34¾	34¾
Avery Dennison	31¾	31¾	Harcourt General	35¾	35¾	Rohm & Haas	54¾	54¾
Avon Products	60¾	60¾	*Heinz (HJ)*	36¾	36¾	Royal Dutch	109¾	107
Baker Hughes	17¾	17¾	Hercules	112	111¾	Rubbermaid	27¾	27¾
Baltim Gas & El	22¾	22¾	Hershey Foods	46¾	46¾	Safeco Corp	47¾	47¾
Banc One	25¾	25¾	Hewlett Packard	99¾	98¾	St Paul's Cos	41	40¾
BankAmerica	40¾	40¾	Hilton Hotels	69¾	69¾	Salomon Inc	36¾	37
Bank of NY	29	28¾	Home Depot	45¾	45¾	Santa Fe Pac	16¾	12¾
Bankers Tr NY	57¾	59¾	Homestake Mng	17¾	16¾	Sara Lee Corp	24¾	24¾
Barnett Banks	39¾	39¾	Honeywell	29¾	28¾	Scecorp	14¾	14¾
Bausch & Lomb	33¾	32¾	Household Intl	36¾	36¾	Schering Plough	73¾	73¾
Baxter Intl	26¾	25¾	Houston Inds	34¾	33¾	Schlumberger	54	54¾
Becton Dickinsn	46¾	46¾	Humana	21¾	21¾	Scott Paper	63	63
Bell Atlantic	50¾	50¾	ITT Corp	81¼	80¾	Seagram	28¾	27¾
BellSouth	53	52¾	Illinois Tool	40¾	40¾	Sears Roebuck	47¾	46¾
Black & Decker	23¾	23¾	Illinova	20	19¾	Shell Trans	65¾	65¾
Block (H&R)	35¾	36¾	INCO	26¾	26	Sherwin Wlms	30¾	30¾
Boeing	44¾	44¾	Ingersoll Rand	31¼	31	Skyline Corp	18¾	18¾
Boise Cascade	23¾	23¾	Inland Steel	31¼	31	Snap-On-Tools	30¾	31
Borden Inc	13¾	13¾	Intel Corp	64¾	65¾	Southern Co	20¾	20¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	57¾	57¾	IBM	70¾	69¾	Schwestern Bell	42¾	42
Browning Ferris	26¾	27	Intl Flav & Fr	44	44	Sprint Corp	31¼	31
Brunswick	17¾	18	Intl Paper	69¾	68¾	Stanley Works	36	35¾
Burlington Nthn	46¾	46¾	James River Va	20¾	20¾	Sun Company	28	28
CBS	56¾	55¾	Jhnsn & Jhnsn	53¾	53	Sun Microsys	32	31¾
CNA Financial	61¾	61¾	Kellogg	58¾	59¾	Suntrust	47¾	47¾
CPC Intl	52¾	51¾	Kerr-McGee	48¾	48¾	Supervalu	24	24
CSX	67¾	67	Kimberly-Clark	47¾	48¾	Sysco Corp	25¾	25¾
Campbell Soup	43¾	43¾	Kmart	14¾	14	TRW Inc	65	65¾
Can Pacific	15¾	15¾	Knight-Ridder	47¾	47¾	*TCC Inds*	2¾	2¾
Cptl Cities ABC	81¼	81¼	Lilly (Eli)	59¾	58¾	Tandem Comp	16¾	16¾
Carolina Pwr	26¾	26¾	Limited Inc	19¾	19¾	Tandy Corp	41¾	41
Caterpillar	53¾	52¾	LIN Brdcstng	139	139¾	Teledyne	17¾	17¾
Central & SW	21¼	21¼	Lincoln Nat	36¾	36	Temple Inland	45	44¾
Champion Ind	33¾	33¾	Litton	34	33¾	Tenneco	38¾	37¾
Chase Manhat	35¾	35¾	Liz Claiborne	22¾	22¾	Texaco	61¾	61¾
Chemical Bk	36¾	36¾	Lockheed	68¾	68¾	Texas Inst	76¾	75¾
Chevron Corp	43¾	42¾	Louisiana Pac	27	26¾	Texas Utilities	33	32¾
Chrysler	49	47¾	MCI Comm	21¼	21¼	Textron	48	47¾
Chubb Corp	70¾	70¾	Marriott Int	26¾	26¾	Time Warner	33¾	33¾
Cigna Corp	63	63	Marsh & McLen	72¾	72	Times-Mirror	31¾	30¾
Citicorp	42¾	41¾	Masco Corp	22¾	22¾	Timken	32¾	32
Clorox	57¾	57¾	May Dept St	35¾	35¾	Torchmark	33	32¾
Coastal Corp	24¾	24¾	Maytag Corp	14¾	14¾	Toys R Us	37	35¾
Coca Cola	51¼	51¼	McDonalds	28¾	28¾	Transamerica	48¾	47¾
Colgate-Palmolive	60¾	60¾	McDonnell D	138¾	137¾	Travelers	32	31¾
Columbia Gas	24¾	24¾	McGraw Hill	67¾	67¾	Tribune	50¾	50
Compaq Comp	38¾	38¾	Mead Corp	44¾	44¾	Tyco Labs	44¾	44¾
Comp Ass Int	44¾	44	Medtronic	51¼	51¼	UST Inc	28	28
Conagra	31¼	31	Mellon Bk	33¾	32¾	UAL	91¾	91¾
Cons Edison	25¾	25¾	Melville Corp	31¼	30¾	USX Marathon	18	18¾
Cons Nat Gas	34¾	34¾	Merck Inc	36¾	35¾	Unicom	23¾	23¾
Cons Rail	50¾	50¾	Merrill Lynch	37¾	36¾	Unilever NV	111¾	110¾
Cooper Inds	35¾	35¾	Minnesota Mine	50¾	50¾	Union Camp	45¾	45¾
Corning Inc	30¾	30	Mobil Corp	83¾	82¾	Union Carbide	27	27
Crown Cork	37¾	36¾	Monsanto	77¼	71¾	Union Pacific	46¾	46¾
Dana Corp	21	20¾	Morgan (JP)	58¾	57¾	Unisys Corp	9¾	9¾
Dayton Hudson	78¾	77¾	Motorola Inc	58¾	59¾	USAIR Group	5¾	5
Deere	63	63¾	*Natl Medical*	13¾	13¾	*USF&G Corp*	13¾	13¾
Delta Air Lines	49¾	48¾	Natl Semi	17¾	17¾	US Life	32¾	32¾
Deluxe Corp	28	28	Natl Service Ind	25¾	25¾	US West	36¾	36¾
Detroit Edison	26¾	26¾	Navistar Int	13	13¾	United Tech	56¾	57¾
Digital Equip	34	33¾	NBD Bancorp	27¾	27¾	Unocal Corp	27¾	27
Dillard Dept St	27¾	27¾	NY Times A	23¾	23¾	Upjohn	30¾	30¾
Disney (Walt)	43¾	42¾	Newmont Mng	37¾	37¾	VF Corp	48¾	48¾
Dominion Res	38¾	37	Niag Mohawk	14¾	15¾	WMX Tech	25¾	25¾
Donelley (RR)	28¾	29¾	Nike B	69¾	64	Wal-Mart Stores	23¾	23¾
Dover Corp	51¾	50¾	NL Industries	10¾	10¾	Warner-Lambert	73	74¾
Dow Chemical	62¾	61¾	Noram Energy	5¾	5¾	Wells Fargo	149	147¾
Dow Jones	29¾	29¾	Nordstrom	45¾	44¾	Westinghouse El	12¾	12¾
Dresser	19¾	19¾	Norfolk Sthrn	60	60¾	Weyerhaeuser	38¾	38¾
Duke Power	40¾	40¾	Nthn State Pwr	44¾	45	Whirlpool	49¾	49¾
Dun & Brdstreet	53	52¾	Norwest Corp	23¾	23¾	Whitman	16	15¾
Du Pont	52¾	53¾	Nynex Corp	38¾	38¾	Winn Dixie	51¾	51¾
Eastman Kodak	46¾	45¾	Occidental Pet	19¾	19	Woolworth	14¾	14¾
Exxon Corp	47¾	47	Ohio Edison	18¾	18¾	Wrigley (Wm) Jr	48¾	48¾
Emerson Elec	60¾	60	Oracle Systems	39¾	39	Xerox	98¾	98
Engelhard Corp	22¾	21¾	*Oryx Energy Co*	12¾	12¾	Yellow Corp	19¾	18¾

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BRITISH FUNDS

1994 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
107	101	Treas 12% 1995	101		11.88	5.83
98	97	Gas 3% 1990-95	98		3.04	5.75
107	102	Exch 10½% 1995	102		10.00	6.25
113	105	Treas 12¾% 1995	105		12.05	6.40
117	107	Treas 14% 1996	107		12.99	6.78
121	110	Treas 15¼% 1996	110	-	13.75	7.12
117	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	108	-	12.23	7.19
112	103	Conv 10% 1996	104	-	9.59	7.60
121	110	Treas 13¼% 1997	110	-	11.97	7.76
114	104	Exch 10½% 1997	105	-	9.96	7.77
110	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	101	-	8.69	8.00
131	117	Exch 15% 1997	117	-	12.77	8.12
117	103	Exch 9¾% 1998	104	-	9.38	8.20
102	93	Treas 7¼% 1998	97	-	7.45	8.17
102	92	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95	-	7.05	8.20
131	115	Treas 15½% 1998	116	-	11.99	8.34
149	132	Treas 15½% 1998	123	-	12.56	8.24
125	112	Exch 12% 1998	112	-	10.70	8.35
116	101	Treas 9½% 1999	104	-	9.13	8.30
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
130	111	Exch 12¼% 1999	113	-	10.77	8.37
121	105	Treas 10½% 1999	107	-	9.73	8.35
107	88	Treas 6% 1999	91	-	6.58	8.29
121	104	Conv 10¼% 1999	107	-	9.56	8.42
116	99	Conv 9% 2000	102	-	8.77	8.35
136	117	Treas 13% 2000	119	-	10.87	8.52
122	103	Treas 10% 2001	106	-	9.36	8.53
100	88	Treas 7% 2001	92	-	7.57	8.14
122	102	Treas 9¾% 2002	106	-	9.16	8.56
113	92	Treas 8% 2003	96	-	8.35	8.90
127	104	Treas 10% 2003	109	-	9.21	8.57
135	110	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113	-	10.14	8.68
85	69	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74	-	4.69	7.19
125	101	Conv 9½% 2004	106	-	8.93	8.61
115	94	Treas 6¾% 2004	89	-	7.61	8.43
125	102	Conv 9½% 2005	108	-	8.89	8.48
143	118	Treas 12½% 2003-05	122	-	10.19	8.78
112	90	Treas 7¾% 2006	94	-	8.18	8.42
111	91	Treas 8% 2002-06	96	-	8.30	8.48
136	112	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116	-	10.06	8.78
119	95	Treas 8½% 2007	100	-	8.47	8.45
151	124	Treas 13½% 2004-08	129	-	10.43	8.80
124	99	Treas 9% 2008	104	-	8.61	8.42
LONGS (over 15 years)						
115	91	Treas 8% 2009	96	-	8.32	8.42
126	100	Conv 9% 2011	105	-	8.56	8.41
127	100	Treas 9% 2012	105	-	8.54	8.40
93	71	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75	-	7.33	8.18
117	92	Treas 8% 2013	96	-	8.28	8.34
114	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	93	-	8.25	8.35
139	99	Treas 8¾% 2017	104	-	8.41	8.33
159	126	Exch 12% 2013-17	131	-	9.10	8.57
UNDATED						
54	39	War Ln 3½%	41	-	8.36	
37	27	Treas 2½%	29	-	8.55	
INDEX-LINKED						
203	197	Treas IL 2% 1996	201	+	2.48	3.94
113	106	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107	+	2.72	3.56
176	163	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166	+	3.31	3.74
173	159	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	+	3.43	3.77
119	107	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	109	+	3.46	3.79
184	165	Treas IL 2% 2006	169	+	3.53	3.79
168	149	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153	+	3.59	3.82
175	154	Treas IL 2½% 2011	158	+	3.68	3.83
146	126	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130	+	3.64	3.83
157	134	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138	+	3.67	3.84
152	128	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133	+	3.71	3.88
129	106	Treas IL 2½% 2024	110	+	3.69	3.83
128	105	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108	+	3.72	3.86



COLD FRONT 33

Pensioners may lose out over VAT on fuel bills

WEEKEND MONEY

POLICY FEES 37

Are investors locked in and blind to fees?



Savers join in call for bigger say

As the Halifax and the Leeds unveil a merger plan, **Robert Miller** looks at an upsurge in 'people power'

Confirmation that the Halifax and Leeds Permanent building societies are in merger talks puts the spotlight firmly on the most important difference between mutual societies and other companies.

The billions of pounds worth of assets now being talked about in boardrooms belong not to some lofty institution but to the millions of savers who have accounts with the societies.

But how much chance will they have to influence the course of events and make their views known? It is almost certain an action group will be formed by possibly a significant number of members of both societies who do not want the combined society to float on the stock market and become a publicly-listed company.

The proposed deal between the Halifax, Britain's largest society with assets of £70 billion, and the Leeds Permanent, the fifth biggest with assets of about £20 billion, comes at the end of a week when "people power" returned to the headlines. British Gas's decision to award a 75 per cent pay rise to Cedric Brown, its chief executive, shortly after announcing higher prices for customers has sparked a fresh debate about the extent to which boards of directors are accountable to their shareholders — or, in the case of building societies, savers and borrowers. Mr Brown's pay rose from £270,000 to £475,000.

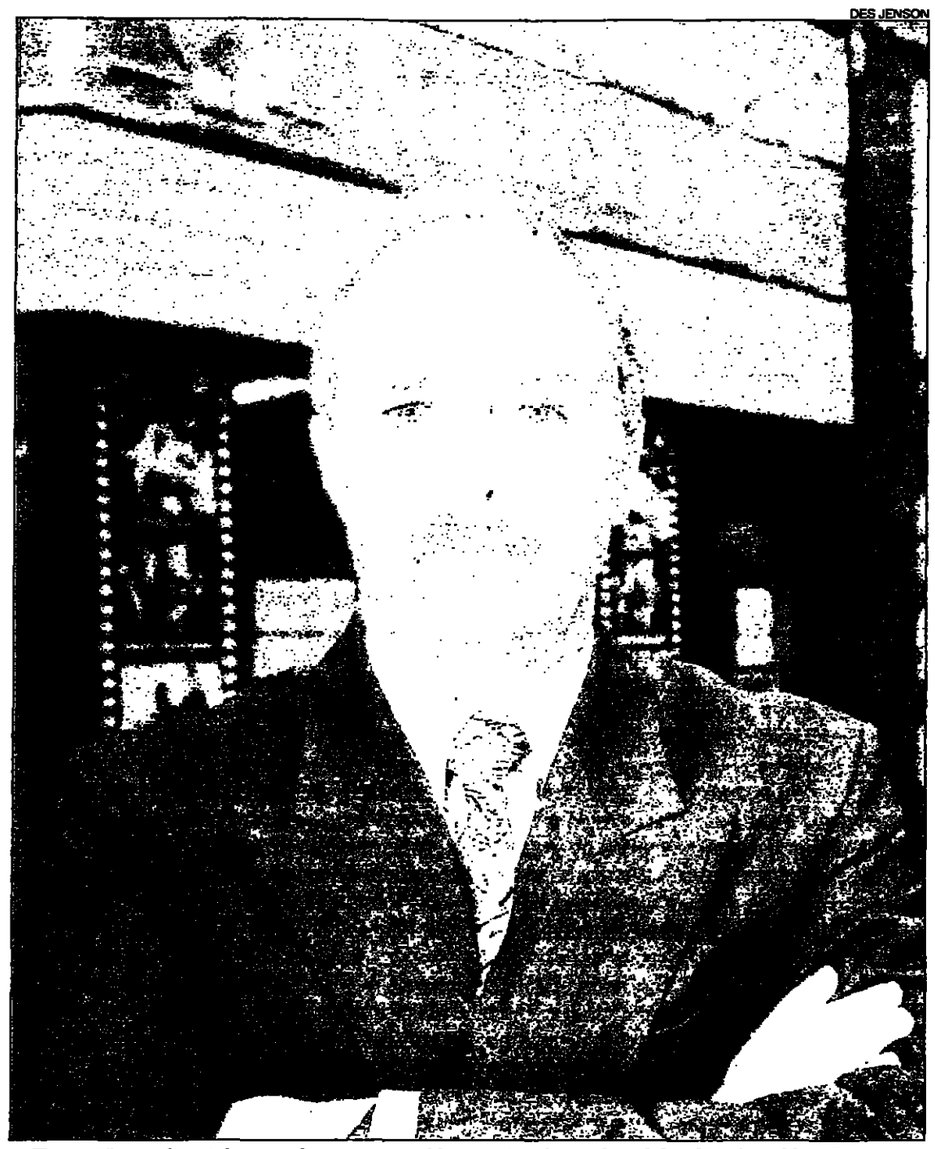
The sheer size of that pay deal, and others — salaries for the chief executives of Britain's larger building societies also run into six figures — have led to calls for greater accountability to shareholders by all boards of directors.

It started in the Commons on Monday when John Major made plain his concern over huge salary rises and appeared to back a shareholders' revolt. The British Gas furore came just a week after he spoke at the Lord Mayor's banquet of the "resentment at large and unjustified salary increases". By Wednesday, the row had escalated. During the Queen's Speech debate, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, said shareholders might be given more power to check big rises for top executives.

The accountability theme extended beyond public companies to embrace the building society industry, which controls £200 billion of the nation's savings. On Wednesday, the Commons Treasury Select Committee finished hearing three days of submissions from building societies. Accountability by having "ordinary" members on their boards was high on the agenda. But the building societies that appeared before MPs rejected that idea.

However, the Treasury has made clear it wants to see ordinary members properly represented on boards in its second-stage review of the building societies movement.

While penetrating the cosy world of these boards may take time, there are signs that smaller shareholders may soon get institutional backing.



DES JENSON

Trevor Harvey is not the sort of man you would expect to take on the might of Nationwide's directors

Going for a place on the board

Trevor Harvey is not a natural born trouble-maker. Indeed, you might think that any company would give serious consideration to an application to join the board from the 44-year-old director of resources at Ashridge Management College, Hertfordshire. He already sits on the boards of four trading companies connected to the college as a director and secretary.

Mr Harvey is also a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers and worked for Nationwide Building Society in various roles, including that of senior executive, for 17 years. So when he decided last year that he would like to become an "ordinary" board member of the Nationwide, Britain's second largest society, you might think it would welcome him with open arms. Mr Harvey has remained a loyal saver and still has a mortgage with the society.

Mr Harvey says: "I am steeped in the building society movement, and I have the knowledge and skills to fill a gap on the board that I feel is missing." He had a head start on completing the necessary paperwork before submitting his application, having processed them for Nationwide.

He says: "You need to know at least 50 people who have had a Nationwide account for two years with more than £100. I know from my own experience that the society's vetting process is very rigorous. My telephone and postage bills came to about £100. I also had to put down a £250 deposit which was returned to me because I polled more than 5 per cent of the votes cast. I also submitted a 200-word statement, the maximum allowed, to support my candidacy which was circulated to 3.5 million Nationwide voters."

In the end, Mr Harvey failed. All five Nationwide directors up for re-election in July succeeded. However, one is to resign next week. So will Mr Harvey stand again? He says: "I'm not a campaigner, but I well might."

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

SHAREHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY

THE Halifax has always made great play of the strength and virtues of building society mutuality. It has been fond of pointing out that, unlike the cold hard world of being a publicly-listed company, all the assets of a society are owned by the members, and it is they who should control what happens to them.

It is certainly true that members own the assets of their particular society. But when it comes to having a real say in strategy, or how those assets might be used to best advantage, members have little or no input. Only a handful of members of the public sit on building society boards.

Mutual societies operate a one-member one-vote system. That is regardless of how many accounts you have, or how much money is in them. Directors are normally elected by postal vote and can be voted off the board. However, that rarely happens unless it is decided by fellow directors.

But now the bandwagon of public opinion is beginning to roll in favour of the ordinary members. The Building Societies Association and individual societies that gave evidence to the Commons Treasury Select Committee have backed down on several key issues. Having originally said the societies had no need for further accountability, they now accept that further concessions have to be made.

The BSA recommends that:

- Borrowers should be given the same voting rights as investing members. At present, borrowers are eligible to vote only in very limited circumstances such as mergers.
- Societies should issue more "member-friendly" information about the relationship between the society and its members, and introduce a more open system of telling members about the activities of the society and its board. The BSA is to prepare a leaflet for wide distribution describing the constitutional rights of society members.

A key issue that the societies will have to address is whether to pay bonuses to loyal customers in the way that public companies pay dividends based on profitability. Such a move requires no change in legislation and is backed by Anthony Nelson, the Treasury Minister, and the Building Societies Commission.

SHAREHOLDERS in public companies are taking their responsibilities much more seriously. A growing number are no longer willing to hand over their proxy votes to the chairman to exercise at the annual meeting in a way that he sees fit.

Over the past two or three years, more and more shareholders are attending annual meetings. Some have gone because they want to know about dividend policies, or because they are concerned about a company's ethical approach to business. But even more have been driven to protest in person about the remuneration received by directors and the fees paid to auditors and other professionals.

Eric Haithorn, research director at Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, says: "It is quite right that small shareholders should also be vocal in their disapproval."

The UK Shareholders Association is now providing a focal point for small shareholders' protests. Donald Butcher, chairman, says: "We want to mobilise private investors and make sure their voice is heard in Britain's boardrooms.

In theory, a shareholder, who only has to hold one share, can ask any question they like at a company's agm. But the chairman can rule a question out of order if it is not covered by the annual report. All shareholders should receive a copy of the report.

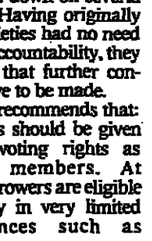
Mr Butcher says: "We encourage our members, who are private shareholders, to attend agms and to raise important issues." But he emphasises that they must read the reports and accounts thoroughly and prepare questions so that they can be taken seriously. Shareholders' rights are governed by four factors: what the Companies Act says; the company's own Articles of Association; the rules of the Stock Exchange's Yellow Book; and certain rights enshrined in the Financial Services Act.

This week, as a topical example of what small shareholders can achieve, Mr Butcher took up the cudgel, on behalf of private investors in British Gas over the 75 per cent pay rise awarded to Cedric Brown, chief executive. Mr Butcher called on shareholders to attend the next annual meeting.

■ The UK Shareholders Association (0372 726535).

Backing the outsiders

INVESTMENT STRATEGY



ANTHONY HARRIS

Last week, Anne Ashworth wrote on this page of the attractions of bonds; now everyone seems to have caught on. US investors have been switching into bonds on such a scale that the equity indices have suffered quite sharply. This may look illogical after 20 years of the equity bull market, but that is really the attraction. The funds, as they were known in the days when no respectable trustee would buy anything else, have been the surest way to lose money in 1994; but you get the best odds on outsiders. The most reliable sort of investment outsider is one that has been unduly out of fashion. Bank shares, then property companies, now bonds.

What makes bonds something near a racing certainty is that their recovery reflects not just a market overshoot, but a change in real world expectations. The market has been rubbing its eyes in disbelief month after month as forecast inflation failed to appear on cue, in spite of obvious warnings such as rising commodity prices and the appearance of supply bottlenecks in previously depressed industries like paper. Yet the goods made from these inputs cost much the same. In Britain, private sector inflation stopped months ago.

Although a few pessimists still simply post-date their forecasts, those with open minds try to understand. What they see is worldwide over-capacity in manufacturing, fierce competition in retailing, and stagnant consumer incomes, so that shoppers are fiercely resistant to high prices. And remember that the emerging economies, much discussed as a threat, still supply little more than a fiftieth of our imports. They will be holding prices down in the next decade.

But should you, who are your own investment manager, simply follow the bond fashion? The idea seems impossibly Victorian, and is likely to be only moderately rewarding. The high running yield of bonds suffers tax in your hands, though not those of a gross fund (buy the lowest coupons you can find). And the capital profit, even if it is tax-free? Of the order of 10 per cent, at best, and probably slow to come. Indexed gilts might be a bit more exciting, since low yields imply volatile prices; but still hardly red-blooded. And you should be. If you are not prepared to expose yourself to some high risk in the hope of high reward, leave the chores of investment management to a unit trust.

Which brings us to a second group of outsiders — short-priced outsiders. These are investments whose potential is so well understood that their price seems to shrug off obviously high risk. You can lose your shirt here, as many have learnt. The emerging economies, whose prospects are underwritten by often spectacularly fast growth, ought to be more reliable, but can also be highly accident-prone: look at the Turkish market, which doubled in 1993, but halved this year. But spread your risks, readily done through a well chosen investment trust, and the story is very different. The emerging markets monitored by the IFC, the World Bank's equity market sponsoring agency, have shown average returns of over 30 per cent in three of the past six years, and no important average losses.

Well known risks remain: politics, ill-regulated markets, and, above, all illiquidity. Remember Christopher Fildes's warning: an emerging market is a market you cannot emerge from in an emergency. And the same attractions, but also the same dangers, can be found in what could be called our own emerging investments: small-capitalisation companies, some of which will grow to gianthood. These have an extra attraction: they usually perform best after a big bull run is over, as professional managers wake up to the fact that the days of easy money are over, and do some serious research. Wall Street's small cap companies have outperformed the big indices by 40 per cent over the past four years. Risky and illiquid? Of course; only the rash will put all their money on outsiders. But they do spice up a portfolio wonderfully, and especially a bond portfolio.

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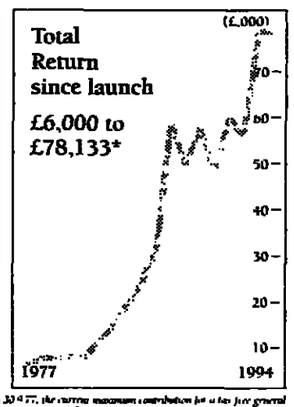
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Sara McConnell investigates the case of a couple who were advised by Royal to change their pension policies

Late-life shock on home front

A Warwickshire couple claim they have lost at least £80,000 at the hands of Royal Life after one of its salesmen advised them three years ago to cash in the life and pension policies covering their mortgage and take out new ones with Royal. John and Valerie Osborn have now found that they will not be able to pay off their mortgage in 16 years, when they retire at 65, because the Royal policies do not mature until they are 75. If they do cash in their policies at 65, the payout will be reduced, leaving them well short of the money they expected to have to pay off the £130,000 loan.

> "They have had a year to sort this out. How do we pay mortgage?"

Royal does not accept that its salesman had "churned" the Osborns' policies, advising them to surrender the policies and take out new ones from Royal to earn himself a new commission. The company says it is still investigating.

Churning is illegal under the Financial Services Act. However, regulators admitted this week that stricter rules from next year, forcing salesmen to tell their customers how much commission they would earn from a sale, would only "reduce", not prevent churning.

On Royal's own projections, the largest lump sum Mr Osborn can now expect to get from his two Royal pension policies is £72,600. But that is the more optimistic of the two industry standard projections life companies can use. If Royal's investment performance is poor, he could receive as little as £36,770. These projections are not guaranteed. Taking the average of the two projections, Mr Osborn could expect £54,685. A separate Royal Life policy in Mrs Osborn's name would yield £3,937, bringing the total to £58,622.

Simon Read, of Alsters, a firm of solicitors in Leamington Spa, which is acting for the Osborns, has written to Royal: "Can you explain to us how Mr and Mrs Osborn are expected to discharge their mortgage in the sum of £130,000 at age 65 when their current policies will only realise £58,622?" Mr Read says the Osborns will be £80,000 short after interest, legal and other costs are taken into account.

Mr and Mrs Osborn approached Royal's agent three years ago, when they wanted to remortgage their home with a new lender. At the time Mr Osborn had four pensions, two with Legal & General, one with Scottish Equitable and one with Scottish Life. Mrs Osborn had a Royal Life endowment policy which guaranteed a payout of £30,000 when it matured.

The Osborns claim Royal's agent told them the lender needed to check the policies to see there was enough cover for the mortgage. The agent then said they did not have enough cover. He advised them to cash in their existing policies and take out new ones with Royal. The lender concerned later told the Osborns' solicitors it had never been approached.

Mr Osborn is now paying £220 a month into one of two Royal pension policies. Royal's agent had undertaken to arrange to transfer the funds in the Scottish Life pension to this policy as well, but Mr Read says this was never done, so the policy has been frozen. The proceeds of his other three pensions were transferred into another Royal policy as a single lump sum.

Meanwhile, Royal promised to arrange for Mrs Osborn's monthly premiums into her endowment policy to be paid to the new lender, which would be administering the policy. But Mr Read says this was not done either. She cannot restart the policy, which has been frozen. The Osborns first complained to Royal through their solicitor in January this year, after unsuccessful attempts to resolve the problem directly with the company. Their complaint has still not been sorted out.

ASHLEY COOMBES/NEWS TEAM



John and Valerie Osborn: they cannot pay off their mortgage at 65

Royal says: "We have to agree this has not been dealt with in as timely a way as we would like. But we have to check the surrender and transfer values with the other companies. We have been in correspondence with them and have now started to make urgent telephone calls."

Royal blames the other companies for their slowness in replying to its questions. It refuses to comment on whether the Osborns' policies have been churned, saying its actuaries have to work out whether the Osborns are better or worse off as a result of the advice they have been given. But Royal confirms the Osborns had to pay a new set of charges when they took out the Royal policies. And they would almost certainly have lost money through surrendering their other policies early.

Mr Osborn says: "They have had two years to sort this out. Before, I was paying £51 a month [into the Scottish Life policy] and my wife was paying £40 a month [into the Royal Life endowment]. Now I'm paying more in premiums and I won't pay off my mortgage until I'm 75. What happens between 65 and 75? How do we pay the mortgage?"

Mr Read says he will go back to the insurance ombudsman next week if he has not reached an agreement with Royal. He has already registered a complaint. Under the Financial Services Act, life offices have two months to respond to complains. At the end of this period, they have to tell policyholders they have a right to go to the ombudsman.

Plans put faith in trusts

Liz Dolan looks at a fund manager's entry into the personal pensions market

While the life insurance industry grapples with the public relations disaster caused by allowing greedy sales staff to sell inappropriate personal pension plans to unsuspecting clients, competitors are moving in for the kill.

The latest newcomer to the personal pensions market is Dunedin, the fund management group based in Edinburgh. Dunedin is employing the twin advantages of a relatively low charging structure and the fact that it is not a life insurance company to promote its new personal pension plan for the self-employed, and a free-standing additional voluntary contribution (AVC) plan.

Following in the footsteps of Foreign & Colonial's hugely successful investment trust pension, launched this year, Dunedin has linked both plans to its own range of investment trusts. This is one of the main reasons for the lower than average charges.

Dunedin's are broadly similar to those offered by F&C, but there are some improvements. These include greater flexibility, such as the option of phasing lump-sum payments over 12 months. This helps to iron out the peaks and troughs of the stock market. Unlike F&C, Dunedin also offers the choice of switching into cash during the period leading up to retirement. F&C now says it is considering both refinements.

There are two investment options. The Classic, aimed at customers who would prefer to leave all the decisions to Dunedin, is 65 per cent invested in the UK via the Edinburgh Investment Trust, with the remaining 35 per cent invested in the Dunedin Worldwide Investment Trust. The Selector is for slightly more adventurous clients, who are offered a choice of the first two trusts, plus Dunedin's Income Growth, Smaller Companies and Japan trusts.

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Enter the awkward squad



COMMENT
ANNE ASHWORTH
Personal Finance Editor

The establishment of a special complaints procedure for the customers of Knight Williams, the retirement adviser, should put all watchdogs on their guard. The move — a victory for the admirable persistence of the Knight Williams action group — is evidence of a new mood among investors.

Those who feel they have a justified grievance will no longer be so easily silenced by that depressing mixture of condescension and obfuscation that too often greets a concerned inquiry to either an adviser or a regulator. The day of the awkward squad has arrived.

The Knight Williams band, led by the redoubtable Kenneth Jordan, knew that their case against the firm deserved a fair hearing. That several hundred clients of the same investment business feel themselves to have been poorly advised is not coincidence, nor is it the whingeing of senior citizens with the leisure to write long letters, but the sign of something that bears investigation.

Dissatisfied with the handling of the affair by Fimbra, the financial advisers' regulator, the Knight Williams protesters harried politicians and marshalled journalists. The first result was a £50,000 fine for Knight Williams, with £23,400 in costs. The firm, which handles funds worth £500 million for 24,000 clients, admitted that it had run misleading advertisements and failed to keep proper client records.

Complaints can now be submitted through the SIB, with the whole procedure being monitored by an independent firm of accountants. The decision is a long overdue indication that the SIB is tackling the problem. But there is no reason for the SIB to become complacent or to believe the Knight Williams saga is drawing to a close.

The SIB should be bracing itself for more noisy agitation from other disaffected investors who feel that their own advisers leave much to be desired.

A large fine for Knight Williams and a new complaints procedure may reassure some clients that things are on the mend. But SIB's officials should be preparing for a thorough-going public scrutiny of Knight Williams's application to join the Personal Investment Authority, the new regulator that is taking on the responsibilities of Fimbra.

Cold comfort on VAT

Pensioners may lose out on extra payments to cover VAT on fuel bills, Liz Dolan finds

ALAIN LOCKYER



Irene and Robert Bowring missed out on the full payment to cover VAT on fuel bills

Fears are growing that Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, will announce in his post-Budget speech that extra payments promised to pensioners to ease the pain of value-added tax on domestic fuel bills will be effectively halved.

Mr Lilley is expected to argue that the extra payments, due to start next April, will be lower than originally indicated because much of the rise in fuel bills will have been accounted for in the increase in basic State pensions, also due to take effect next April. This is because VAT on fuel bills is reckoned to account for nearly one-fifth of the 2.2 per cent rise in the cost of living in September this year, the month on which the annual rise in pension payments is based.

Sir Andrew Bowden, Conservative MP for Brighton Pavilion and joint chairman of the all-party parliamentary group for pensioners, says: "This is what the Treasury now appears to be indicating, although I have yet to have it confirmed." VAT on fuel bills is reckoned to account for 0.4 percentage points of the September rise in the cost of living, which equates to about 25p of the 50p additional weekly payment for single pensioners due to start next year, he says.

But, Sir Andrew says there is still an "outside chance" that the Government will bow to pressure from a group of its own backbenchers and freeze VAT on fuel at 8 per cent, rather than go ahead with the proposed rise to 17.5 per cent.

Robert Bowring, a Somerset reader, claims that nearly one million pensioners have already been misled by the Government over the amount of help they would receive with their fuel bills. Squadron Leader Bowring says that, so desperate was the Government to push "this evil tax" through Parliament last year that, when it announced the concession to pensioners, it failed to add that one in ten pensioners would miss out on the full payment.

He and his wife, Irene, receive only 75 per cent of the full State retirement pension because of missed National Insurance payments when living abroad. While he has no argument with this decision, Squadron Leader Bowring was furious to discover that they would also receive 25 per cent less in VAT reimbursements for the same reason.

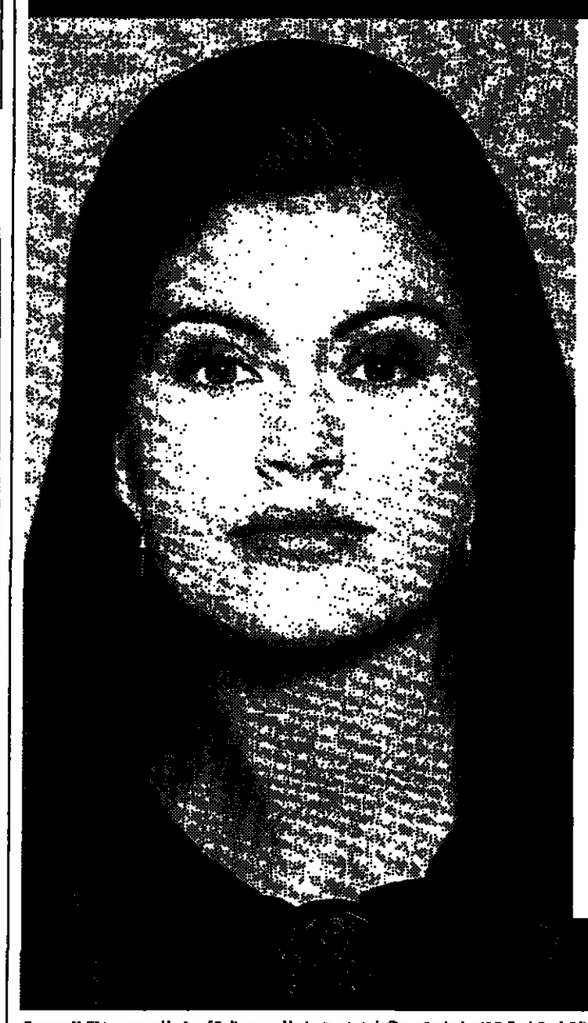
The Bowrings have other sources of income, but point out that many of the 950,000 who receive less than the full State pension do not. "In other words," he says, "the less pension you get, and consequently the more deserving of assistance, the less help you receive with VAT payments."

When VAT of 8 per cent was imposed on fuel bills in April, single people on a full State pension were granted an extra £26 a year in weekly payments to help them to meet the additional cost. Couples in the same position receive £36.40. From next April, when VAT on fuel rises to 17.5 per cent, recipients of the full pension receive £52, or £72.80, a year on the same basis. The Bowrings receive just £27.30, rising to £54.60 next year.

In its Budget submission to the Chancellor, published this week, Age Concern England says: "There should be no reductions in assistance on the basis of incomplete NI contribution records, in recognition that this has nothing to do with the ability to pay the VAT on fuel bills."

The charity is calling instead for a "fairer package of extra help", taking full account of the latest data on fuel expenditure by households mainly dependent on the state pension and benefits. According to the Government's annual *Family Expenditure Survey*, last year single people paid an average £8.94 per week on fuel. Of this, VAT accounted for 71p, leaving a 21p deficit on the full 50p extra payment, even before deductions are made for tax or missed NI payments, Age Concern says. Because the reimbursement is taxable, the net amount of "extra help" received by single, basic rate taxpayers is just 37.5p a week.

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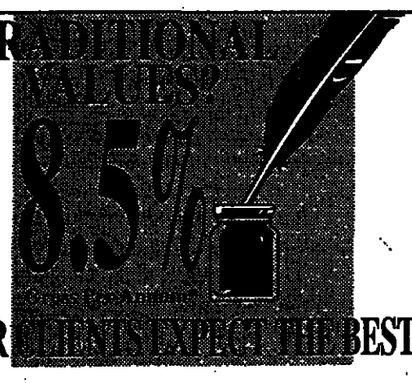
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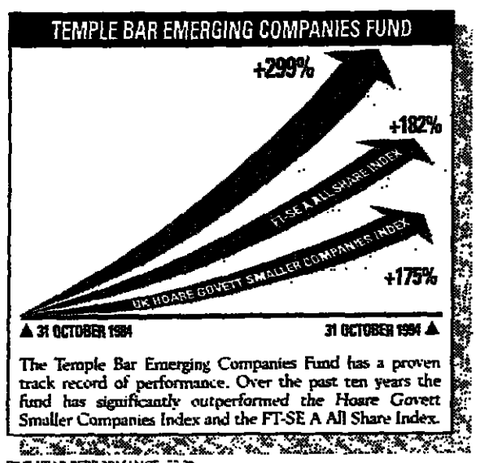
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Years	Temple Bar Emerging Companies Fund
1	1
2	1
3	1
4	1
5	1
6	1
7	1
8	1

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Think before you join the rush for bonds

Helen Pridham explains the risks and attractions of the increasingly popular with-profits bonds

Many more people have lump sums to invest nowadays, often as a result of redundancy, inheritance and pension payouts at retirement. The life insurance industry has been quick to cash in by launching a raft of attractive sounding "bonds". Among the most popular have been with-profits bonds, but few investors really understand how they work.

Latest new business figures show how vital lump-sum investment has become for life insurance companies. It now accounts for about 85 per cent of the industry's new premium income. With-profits bonds alone have attracted more than £1.6 billion this year and total investment in them is estimated at more than £8 billion.

The risks involved are often glossed over. Moira Elms, personal financial planning partner at Coopers & Lybrand, the firm of accountants, is critical of the way the bonds are sold. "With-profits bonds have been widely misrepresented in the marketplace. They should be used with caution and their structure and the risks fully explained to the client."

Technically, the bonds are single-premium life insurance policies. They invest in with-profits life funds which normally hold a mixture of equity, property and fixed interest investments. Each year a share of the returns made on these investments is added to the value of the bond in the form of a bonus.

The aim of the with-profits approach is to smooth out investment returns through the bonus system by holding some profits back when conditions are good, to avoid the need to have to cut bonuses drastically when investment conditions are poor. In theory, once a bonus is added to a policy it cannot be withdrawn.

However, the real appeal for investors comes when they are sold on their potential to produce higher returns than building society accounts.

David Aaron, a financial adviser who sells large quantities of with-profits bonds, says they are particularly attractive to people who have seen their returns from traditional bank and building society investment fall by as much as 60 per cent over the past few years. He is recommending with-profits bonds offered by the Prudential, Royal Life, Friends Provident, Commercial Union and NPI. The Prudential, which has the largest share of the market with some 150,000 with-profits bondholders, is at present paying an annual bonus rate of 7 per cent and a terminal bonus of 1.75 per cent.



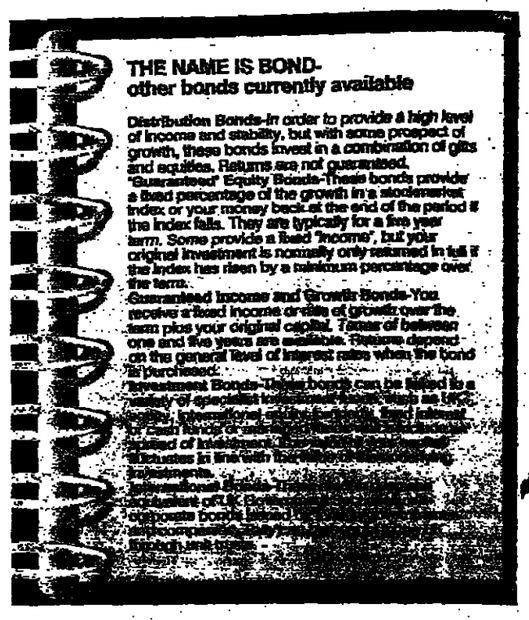
Moria Elms urges caution

However, Moira Elms argues that the apparent attractions of the bonds should be viewed in the context of the potential use of the market value adjustment (MVA) factor. The MVA is an unspecified deduction which all companies reserve the right to apply to their bonds in the event of "adverse stockmarket conditions" or "exceptional circumstances". This means that, if the value of a fund's assets were to fall, companies could apply a significant MVA to the value of a bond when it is surrendered.

Some other advisers are lukewarm about with-profits bonds and suggest investors could be better off with alternative investments. David Major, of Touche Ross, the firm of accountants, says they would almost certainly get better results in the longer run from a basket of good unit trusts. Graham Hooper, of Chase de Vere, suggests that investors who want secure returns could consider guaranteed income or growth bonds. He points out that one reason with-profits bonds may be recommended more often is that guaranteed income or growth bonds only earn an adviser commission of 0.5 to 1.5 per cent, whereas commission on a with-profits bond is typically 5.25 per cent.

The tax advantages of the bonds can also be overstated. Although basic-rate taxpayers have no further tax to pay on their profits, and higher-rate taxpayers can take a tax deferred income, the life office itself has to pay tax on both income and capital gains within the bond. More tax efficient investments include personal equity plans, zero dividend preference shares and low coupon gilts.

One adviser who actively warns clients against investing in with-profits bonds is Andrew Warwick Thompson, of the actuary Bacon & Woodrow. He gives three reasons: "The first is the lack of transparency in the expense structure of with-profits policies. The declared charges, such as the initial deduction of 5 per cent, are only the half of it. There are internal costs on the with-profits fund which are never revealed. The second reason is that companies have too much discretion over the investment return which is passed on to investors. Thirdly, actuarial considerations mean that guarantees have to be matched and investment managers are therefore restricted in their investment policy. For all these reasons we believe our client will get better value from a good managed equity fund where expenses are transparent, the managers have no discretion about the returns that go to investors and the investment strategy is unfettered."



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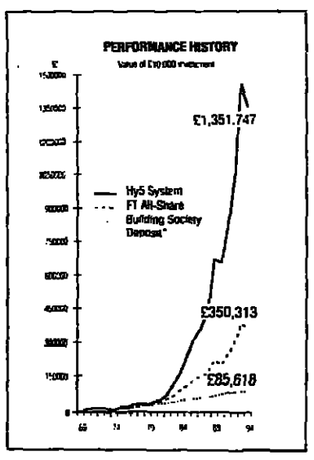
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Pressure is mounting on consumers to pay their bills by direct debit, **Liz Dolan** and **Nick Mathiason** report

The penalties of direct action

British Gas last week joined the fast growing number of companies to penalise customers who are not prepared to pay bills by monthly direct debit. The news will exacerbate existing concern about the creeping pressure on consumers to use this form of payment.

Una Morton, a teacher from north London, says she used to believe that using monthly direct debit was the most convenient method of paying her bills. She now feels they are more trouble than they are worth, after a painful experience with London Electricity.

The LEB sent her a letter in August announcing its intention of taking £632 from her account. But she was away from home, convalescing after a kidney infection, and did not discover that the money had been removed until mid-October. Ms Morton, who never owed the money in the first place, says she then spent an hour on the phone to the LEB, being transferred to various departments, and was then advised to call a number that turned out to belong to a local window cleaning business.

Three weeks later, a meter reader informed her that the LEB had forgotten to "zero" the meter after the previous tenant had moved out. It took a further four weeks to recover her money, putting a trip to South America on temporary hold. The LEB granted Ms Morton one quarter's free electricity but, as a single person, she uses very little electricity. Her account is still in credit and she has yet to receive any benefit from the offer.

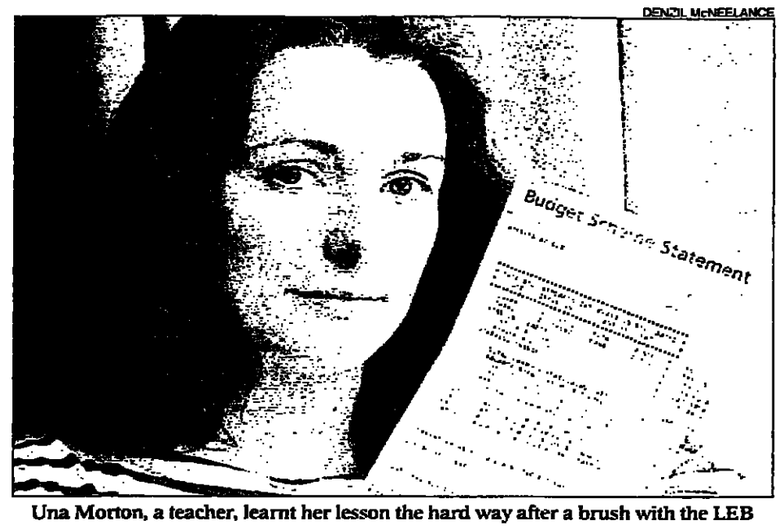
The company said: "A lot of things have gone wrong from the start. We can only apologise for the inconvenience and distress caused." Wynne Evans, of the Association of Payment Clearing Services, which regulates direct debit payments, concedes that because of the sheer volume of transactions, mistakes do occur. He says: "The London Electricity Board did give notice that it was going to withdraw money, so strictly speaking it operated within the rules. For individuals, I know this offers little solace. I must admit I would be very concerned if this happened to me."

Ms Morton says: "Direct debits are like giving these huge companies the keys to your car. I never realised they could just access funds without confirmation from the customer." George McMillan, a retired journalist from Westcliff-on-Sea, has suffered a series of blunders and miscalculations involving direct debits. The first concerned the deduction, without warning, by the Prudential of extra insurance premium payments, after the Government's decision to reduce income tax relief on endowment policies. The Pru said it had not bothered to warn customers because news of the tax reduction had appeared in the press.

Mr McMillan then surrendered one of his policies and informed both the Pru and his bank. Two weeks later, the insurer deducted a premium payment for the surrendered policy. It returned the money promptly but then, apparently in a state of confusion, failed to deduct premiums for any of Mr McMillan's other policies until he pointed out the error. It now says: "We can't work out whether it was our fault or the bank's".

Mr McMillan says: "Any hope I had that I would have no more trouble with direct debits were dashed in April this year when Unison mistakenly claimed £71, instead of £4, from my account." He subsequently incurred bank charges for an unauthorised overdraft. It took two months for the money and charges to be repaid.

Devsiri Hewavidana, of Leicester, ran up a series of charges for unauthorised overdrafts when his motor insurer, Swinton, started deducting premiums at different times of the month after he transferred his direct debit instructions from a bank to a building society account. Swinton persuaded the building society to repay the charges, but then cancelled the policy after apparently being instructed to do so by the building society. "I had been driving my car for three days, unaware that my policy had been cancelled," Mr Hewavidana says.



Una Morton, a teacher, learnt her lesson the hard way after a brush with the LEB

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FUND MANAGERS LTD

Please remember, past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns. Share prices can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you invest.

Anne Ashworth offers a step-by-step guide to trimming your home loan

Honey, I shrank the mortgage

JULIAN HERBERT



Homeowners can reduce the mortgage by a storey or two

One tax increase is not a secret stored until Tuesday's Budget. From April 1995, mortgage interest relief will be cut from 20 per cent to 15, with further decreases likely until the benefit becomes fiscal history.

At the current rate, the relief is worth £40.75 a month on a mortgage of £30,000 or more. In April, this will fall to £30.62, assuming no change in mortgage rate. Each 5 per cent cut thereafter means another £10.13 decline in the benefit.

The gradual erosion of the relief turns homebuyers' minds to paying off part of their mortgages to reduce monthly payments or the loan term.

If, as well as an emergency reserve, you have money you will not need in the foreseeable future, read our guide to shrinking your mortgage.

Q Are all borrowers entitled to reduce their mortgage debt whenever they wish?

A Banks and building societies are almost always happy to accept capital repayments at any time.

Anyone with a fixed-rate mortgage wishing to pay off a chunk of capital during the fixed-rate period may be barred or incur a part-repayment fee. This penalty may be based on the amount repaid, rather than on the whole loan. This is the rule applied by the Halifax, which, on a £10,000 repayment against a £50,000 loan, would charge a fee of three months' interest, calculated as a percentage of the £10,000. Redemption penalties are also common with most other discount offers and special deals and can easily outweigh savings made from reducing debt.

Q By repaying some of my loan, am I not losing out on the interest I would have earned from the money?

A You have to compare the after-tax return on your savings with interest you pay on your loan. On the current average mortgage rate of 8.10 per cent, after tax relief, you pay a real rate of 6.48 per cent on the portion of your loan under £30,000. Your savings give a better return only if the before-tax rate exceeds 8.64 per cent, if you are a basic-rate taxpayer, or 10.80 per cent if taxed at 40 per cent.

The Britannia Capital Trust postal account, a leader in its field, offers 6.35 per cent gross (before tax) on £10,000 and more. Some one-year bonds (eg the Halifax Special Reserve One Year bond) offer 7 per cent plus (again before tax) on larger balances.

On the portion of loan above £30,000, the advantage of using some of your funds to pay off debt is more clear-cut. You would only lose out if the before-tax return on your funds exceeds 10.8 per cent (basic-rate taxpayer) or 13.5 per cent (higher-rate taxpayer).

Q A financial adviser says he can get me 11 per cent on my savings. Can he?

A I would be suspicious. As David Harris, of the fee-based financial adviser Chantrey Vellacott, says: "There simply isn't a relatively safe investment that can give you a return of more than 11 per cent."

Q How much, or how little, can I repay?

A Check the minimum capital repayment accepted. It varies between the various banks and building societies. The Woolwich has a minimum of £500. Abbey National wants £1,000. The Nationwide specifies £500 or three monthly repayments, whichever is more. Halifax borrowers may repay as much or as little as they please, but the society says that only £1,000 or more will make a significant difference.

Q Is the timing important?

A Practice differs between institutions. You must tell your lender that your cheque is a capital repayment and ask for the balance on your mortgage account to be adjusted immediately. Otherwise it may stay unaltered until the end of the calendar year or the lender's financial year-end because most still work on the system of "annual rests", whereby debt is adjusted only once a year.

Abbey National borrowers who want to make a capital repayment before the company's December 31 year-end can submit a cheque on New Year's Eve. The balance outstanding will be recalculated overnight. The Halifax's financial year ends on January 31. Cheques will be accepted until the close of business that day and the mortgage account balance readjusted. If you are able to make a repayment before Christmas, the adjustment will be made at the end of December. Remember that you must make your intention clear to the Halifax.

Q If I make a repayment, by how much will my monthly mortgage bill go down?

A Your lender will be happy to supply the figures. Anyone clearing £20,000 of a £100,000 25-year loan with the Woolwich (rate, 8.10 per cent) would see the monthly payment fall by £157.12, from £747.64 to £590.52. Alternatively, the term could be cut to 14 years, 11 months.

Q What if I have an endowment mortgage?

A As with a repayment mortgage, you may reduce the loan. But you cannot shorten the term because this will always be governed by the maturity date of the covering endowment policy. With notable exceptions, such as Equitable Life and Scottish Widows, life insurance companies offer cash-in values less than the total of premiums paid. You can make the policy paid up. But it may be better to persist until maturity, or at least until the policy has some attraction in the second-hand market.

Q I cannot afford to make a capital repayment. But I could pay a little extra each month. Is this allowed?

A Most lenders are not obsessed with keeping borrowers in bondage. By increasing your monthly repayment, you can aim to be free of your mortgage in a shorter time (see table).

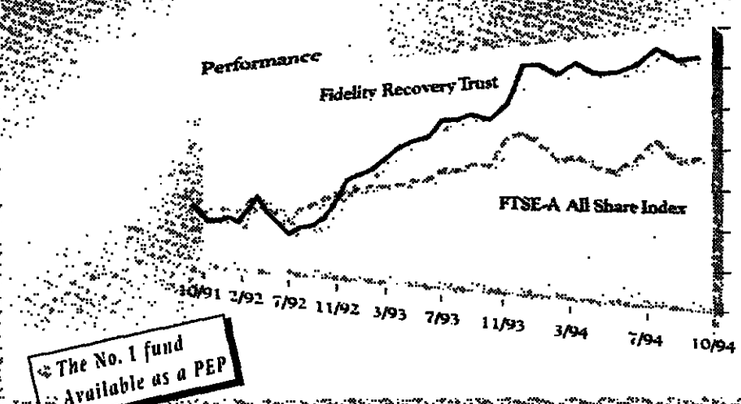
CALL TIME ON THE LOAN

£50,000 - Repayment loan over 25 years at 8.1% ('normal' payment - £353.17)

Extra monthly payment	Repayment term
£10	23 years 9 months
£25	21 years 6 months
£50	18 years 10 months
£100	15 years 1 month
£150	12 years 9 months
£200	11 years 1 month

Source: Halifax

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The No. 1 fund
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TM57

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Source of all figures: Micropal, performance offer to bid with net income reinvested to 1.11.94. Free use of cumulative growth of £1,000 during over five years. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of tax savings will depend on individual circumstances. Fidelity Recovery Trust is managed by Fidelity Investment Services Limited, a member of IMRO, and regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The Fidelity PEP is offered and managed by Fidelity Investments Limited, a member of IMRO.



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Please note: To apply for credit facilities you must be aged 18 or over. APR correct at time of going to press, but subject to variation - full details and a written Consumer Credit quotation are available from: Bank of Scotland, Marketing Department, P.O. Box No. 12, Ulbster House, 61 Grassmarket, Edinburgh EH1 2JF. *If you are not a Bank of Scotland cardholder you may still register for the Prize Draw by writing to Bank of Scotland at the address shown before the end of the relevant month. Prize Draw rules and full details of Mortgage Bonus Points are available from Card Services at the address shown. For all mortgages we require a security over the property and an acceptable life assurance policy. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Charges on the quiet

Reforms of fees and premiums will not help all investors, says Jean Eaglesham

Holders of endowment, personal pension and life insurance policies will not be helped by reforms that will force insurance companies to disclose and control their charges from the new year. Many existing policyholders could face undisclosed increases in charges.

Nick Conyers, an independent financial adviser at Pearson Jones, in Leeds, thinks that stealthy increases in charges could be just the tip of the iceberg — the issue that should most concern policyholders, he says, is how the estimated £2 billion bill for compensation for pension transfers will be carved up.

It seems likely that policyholders will be forced to meet the lion's share of the bill by a reduction in bonus levels. Mr Conyers says: "Those in the boardrooms who were keen to attract business at any cost will not suffer at all."

Fiona Price, another independent financial adviser, of Fiona Price & Partners, says that policyholders are "sitting ducks" for insurers who choose to increase charges or premiums, partly because of the high costs incurred when a policy is cashed in early.

Many life insurance policies include clauses that allow the insurer to increase charges by unspecified future amounts, or sometimes in addition to inflation-linked increases. These charges are often shrouded in jargon. "Market value adjuster", for example, is insurance-speak for the right to reduce bonuses, while the attractive sounding "capital units" are a form of up-front charges on unit-linked policies.

From next year, new policyholders will have the right to challenge such clauses in court, under a European directive on unfair terms in consumer contracts. This could herald the demise of clauses that allow insurers complete discretion to increase future charges. However, this is cold comfort for existing policy holders as the directive will not apply retrospectively.


IMAGE BANK

Policyholders are locked in and often blind to charges

Many insurers have increased management fees and other charges in recent years. For example, Standard Life has increased the monthly charge on its rebate-only personal pension plan from £1 in 1988 to £1.55 today.

Scottish Widows has the discretion to increase all its charges, while Scottish Life confirms that its personal pension plan includes an option to increase charges by an unspecified amount. Scottish Equitable began to raise the charges on its personal pension plans last year.

There is no requirement for insurers to notify policyholders about increases, or on how they could affect the expected final payout. John Chapman, of the Office of Fair Trading, describes the little information that is provided as "gobbledegook".

The Office of Fair Trading recommended last year that insurers should be required to send policyholders an annual statement showing clearly how the policy is progressing, but this proposal appears to have fallen on deaf ears with the regulators and industry alike. A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers confirmed that the industry had no plans to improve the information it gives to current policyholders.

Jean Eaglesham was head of money policy at the Consumers' Association and is now on the staff of Investors Chronicle

COME CLEAN ON COSTS

THE regime to enforce clear disclosure of charges and penalties on investments has suffered a set back with the news that disclosure for unit and investment trusts will be delayed until at least next July.

Disclosure for endowments, personal pensions, and other life insurance based investments will go ahead from January. Advisers will have to disclose:

- The commission, or equivalent, that their firm will make on the sale;
- The effect of the insurance company's charges on the return from the policy;
- How much investors are likely to get back if they cash in the policy early;
- Why the adviser is recommending the policy. "Reason why" letters must be sent while the investor still has time to cancel the policy without penalty.

From next July, the charges and surrender values must reflect the potential investor's own circumstances, rather than be based on typical examples.

These changes should produce a huge saving for new policyholders. The Securities and Investments Board, the main regulator, predicts annual savings of £1 billion over the next decade, with an average 20 per cent fall in commission payments alone saving £500 million each year.

The insurance industry is not overjoyed, but it accepts the changes are inevitable, and many charges have to be cut. IFA Promotions, the independent advice lobbying group, admits that "many people will be put off by the existing levels of initial commission — particularly on pensions and endowment policies".

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BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL (IN LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Proposed Agreement with Majority Shareholders and Pooling Agreement with ICIC

The Liquidators of Bank of Credit and Commerce International SA ("BCCI SA"), Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd ("BCCI Overseas") and Credit and Finance Corporation Ltd ("CFC") are in the process of sending out letters (with attachments) to creditors relating to:

- a Proposed Agreement with the Government of Abu Dhabi on behalf of the Majority Shareholders of BCCI Holdings (Luxembourg) SA ("Holdings") under which US$1,800 million will be paid to the Liquidators of BCCI SA, BCCI Overseas, CFC, Holdings and the principal ICIC Companies for distribution to unsecured creditors;
- a Proposed Pooling Agreement whereby the assets of the principal BCCI companies and the principal ICIC Companies will be pooled and distributed rateably amongst creditors.

The court in Luxembourg will consider whether to approve the Proposed Agreement with the Majority Shareholders and the Proposed ICIC Pooling Agreement at hearings to be held on 30 November and 1 December 1994.

The High Court in London will consider whether to give such approval at a hearing on 19 December 1994 at 9.30 am.

The Cayman Islands Court will consider approval at hearings to be held on 12 and 13 January 1995.

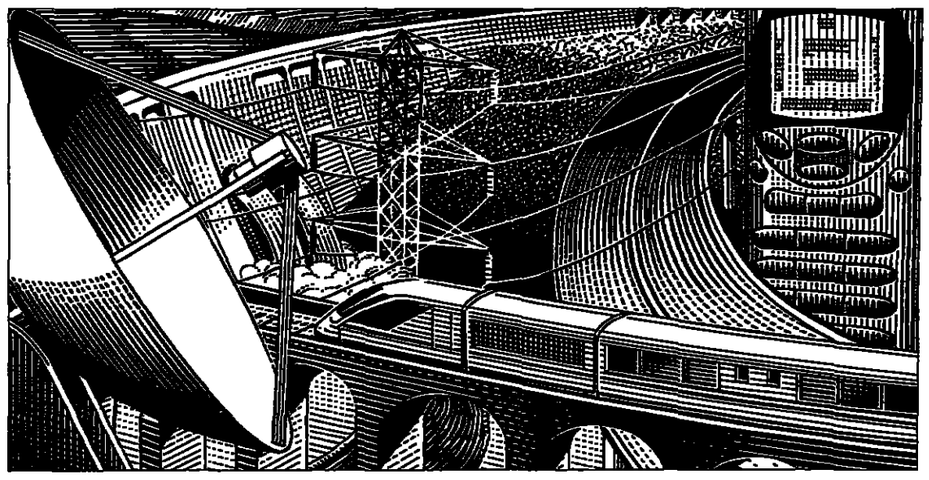
If any creditor requires further information, or intends to appear or be represented at the court hearings, he or she should contact, for BCCI SA – England, Creditors Claims Department, Citadel House, 5-11 Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1BR; for BCCI SA and BCCI Holdings (Luxembourg) SA, Airport Centre, 5 Rue Hohenhof, L-1736 Senningerberg, Luxembourg; for BCCI Overseas and CFC, the Creditors Group, PO Box 1359, One Capital Place, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, BWI.

Submission of Claims

If any creditor has not yet received a proof of debt form and would like to submit a claim, please write to the appropriate Liquidators at one of the addresses noted above.

This notice **ONLY** applies to BCCI SA and BCCI Overseas and their branches and to CFC.

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Investors should remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. An investment in the Templeton Global Strategy Funds may fluctuate and an investor may not get back the amount he has invested. Currency movements may also cause fluctuations in value. The protections of the UK regulatory system do not apply to an investment in the Templeton Global Strategy Funds and compensation under the UK Investors Compensation Scheme will not be available.

TO: Templeton Registration Office, Freepost EH2721, 17 Napier Square, Livingston EH54 5BR.
Please send me details of the Templeton Global Infrastructure & Communications Fund.

Name TT 26.11.94

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Templeton

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE
Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8800

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	442.50	468.30	-11.00	...
UK Equity	543.50	575.20	-21.10	...
Property	481.20	509.30	-13.90	...
Fixed Interest	304.50	322.30	- 4.50	...
Money	270.30	286.10	+20.00	...
International	370.90	392.50	-11.50	...

ABBEY LIFE
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fd Inc	276.30	290.90	...	...
-do- Acc	522.20	549.70	...	...
Equity Fd Inc	159.80	168.30	- 5.00	0.0
-do- Acc	213.20	224.50	- 0.70	0.0
Selective Fd	478.10	503.30	- 4.20	0.0
Money Fd	376.90	396.80	+ 0.30	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	407.20	428.70	...	...
Equity Ser 4	206.70	217.60	- 5.20	...
Man Ser 4	650.60	684.90	- 9.30	0.0
Conv Ser 4	328.10	345.40	+ 0.20	...
Money Ser 4	327.90	345.10	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	341.40	359.40	+ 4.00	0.0
American Ser 4	469.20	494.10	- 8.50	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	649.30	683.50	-17.10	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	206.20	217.10	- 0.60	0.0
Japan Ser 4	357.40	376.30	- 7.20	0.0

ALBANY LIFE
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Fd Acc	£14.45	£15.21	-59.90	...
European Fd Acc	359.10	378.00	- 1.90	...
Fixed Int Acc	495.50	521.50	+ 1.60	...
Gtd Money Acc	333.80	351.30	+ 0.30	...
Intl Managed Acc	586.00	616.80	-14.40	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	311.80	328.20	+ 2.50	...
Japan Fund	278.30	292.90	-11.40	...
N American Acc	303.90	319.80	- 8.60	...
Prop Fd Acc	444.60	468.00	- 3.70	...
Multiple Inv Acc	990.60	£10.42	-29.00	...

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE
Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fxd Int Dep Acc	372.30	391.90	- 0.30	...
Equity Acc	£13.59	£14.30	-36.20	...
Property Acc	574.30	604.60	+ 0.40	...
Far East Acc	320.20	337.10	-15.40	...
Managed Capital	517.40	544.70	-11.50	...
-do- Acc	£10.52	£11.08	-22.90	...
Overseas Acc	892.80	939.80	-25.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	475.70	500.90	- 2.30	...
Amer Equity Acc	722.80	760.90	-18.10	...
Amer Man Acc	309.80	326.20	- 7.00	...
Amer Prop Acc	115.70	121.80	+ 0.10	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Reserve Ser 6	155.50	163.60	+ 0.60	...
Balced Ser 6	684.50	720.50	-16.50	...
Opportunity Ser 6	154.50	162.60	- 3.50	...
Distribution Ser 6	97.70	102.80	- 0.40	7.00
UK Equities Ser 6	922.20	970.00	-27.80	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	997.70	£10.50	-30.60	...
North Amer Ser 6	417.50	439.40	-14.40	...
Far East Ser 6	569.30	599.20	-20.70	...
Europe Ser 6	353.60	372.20	- 3.80	...
Intnl Ser 6	538.70	566.90	-16.40	...
Property Ser 6	568.40	598.30	- 0.90	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	425.50	447.80	- 3.50	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	176.10	185.30	+ 0.20	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	295.80	311.30	+ 0.30	...

BARCLAYS LIFE
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Acc	800.60	842.90	-20.40	...
-do- Initial	530.40	558.40	-13.50	...
Gilt Edged Acc	373.10	392.80	+ 4.40	...
-do- Initial	249.30	262.50	- 2.90	...
International Acc	390.50	411.10	- 9.20	...
-do- Initial	259.30	273.00	- 6.10	...
Managed Acc	504.60	531.20	- 9.70	...
-do- Initial	336.30	354.00	- 6.50	...
Money Acc	290.60	305.90	+ 0.30	...
Property Acc	304.10	320.20	- 0.50	...
-do- Initial	200.90	211.50	- 0.30	...
America Acc	259.10	272.50	- 9.00	...
Australia Acc	210.20	221.40	- 0.20	...
Financial Acc	307.50	323.70	-12.20	...
500 Accum	421.40	443.60	- 6.20	...
Japan Genl Acc	352.10	366.60	-11.90	...
Income Acc	492.70	518.70	-14.70	...
Leisure Acc	221.70	233.40	- 2.70	...
Special Sits Acc	224.50	236.40	- 4.50	...
Unit Tech Acc	154.10	162.30	- 4.10	...

BLACK HORSE LIFE
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
The Managed Fd	790.38	780.38	-14.39	...
Income Fund	736.16	774.91	-17.68	...
Extra Income	667.35	702.48	-15.67	...
Worldwide Gth	479.55	504.79	-14.25	...
Balanced Fund	638.19	671.78	-15.61	...
Smllr Cos Recov	662.01	697.49	- 4.37	...
N Amer & Genrl	335.66	353.35	- 9.03	...
Pacific Basin	419.92	442.03	-24.05	...
German Growth	226.87	238.62	- 5.15	...
Japan Growth	194.25	193.95	- 6.07	...
The UK Gth Fd	201.50	212.11	- 5.16	...
Contl Euro Gth	127.62	134.34	- 2.05	...
Property Fund	410.99	432.63	- 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	297.76	313.44	- 3.27	...
Cash Fund	282.64	297.52	+ 0.16	...
Managed Inv	472.97	497.87	- 9.22	...
Nth Amer Recov	222.79	234.52	- 8.02	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	495.29	521.36	- 2.69	...

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE
PO Box 57, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 568000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Measured Perf	155.30	164.30	- 3.30	...
Performance Plus	155.60	164.60	- 4.90	...
With Profit Perf	171.60	181.50	+ 0.20	...

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	167.20	176.90	- 5.20	...
Euro Opportunity	217.20	229.80	- 3.00	...
North Amer Opp	155.10	164.10	- 4.10	...
Far East Opp	187.20	198.00	- 7.10	...
Gth Prop Ser 1	133.60	140.60		
Gth Prop Ser 2	186.90	197.70		
Fixed Int	183.00	193.60	+ 1.50	...
Cash	156.50	165.60	+ 0.10	...
Overseas	179.20	189.60	- 5.00	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	320.70	337.60	- 6.60	...
UK Equity	530.00	557.90	-14.10	...
Property	298.10	313.80	+ 0.90	...
Money Market	251.70	265.00	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	297.90	313.60	+ 0.20	...
Japan	383.40	403.60	- 9.30	...
North America	141.20	148.70	- 4.20	...
International	287.40	302.60	- 5.10	...
European	277.10	291.70	- 3.90	...
Far East	132.30	139.20	- 6.00	...

CANADA LIFE
26 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Growth	£269.30	...	...	...
Managed	316.40	333.10	- 3.50	...
Property	239.60	252.30	+ 0.30	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	225.90	238.30	+ 2.70	...
Equity	348.60	367.00	- 6.20	...
Cash	216.50	227.90	...	...
CLife Euro Mgd	363.30	382.50	- 3.30	...
CLife Intl Fd	350.50	369.00	- 0.30	...

CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fund	179.30	188.70	...	...
Managed Fund	575.40	605.70	-12.00	...
Equity Fund	328.60	345.90	- 9.60	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	274.20	288.70	- 8.10	...
Ruby	167.20	176.00	- 6.20	...
Emerald	141.80	149.30	- 0.70	...
Equity	308.80	325.10	-10.10	...
Property	233.50	245.80	...	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	196.60	207.00	+ 1.70	...
Indexed Secs	163.20	171.80	+ 0.60	...
Cash	186.70	196.60	+ 0.20	...
Nth American	209.90	220.90	- 7.90	...
Far East	311.60	328.10	-16.90	...
International	230.00	242.20	- 8.10	...
Special Sits	315.10	331.70	-10.20	...
Intl Income	276.40	291.00	- 6.00	...
American Inc	179.10	188.60	- 5.10	...
European	306.40	322.60	- 5.50	...
Japanese	140.30	147.70	- 5.40	...
SE Asia	348.50	366.90	-19.10	...
With Profits Reg	164.30	173.00	+ 0.20	...
-do- Spec	164.30	173.00	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	306.50	322.70	- 9.30	...
Equity	359.60	378.60	-12.50	...
Property	215.30	226.70	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	245.40	258.40	+ 2.20	...
Index Linked	172.90	182.00	- 0.30	...
Cash	249.90	263.10	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	248.40	261.50	- 9.80	...
Far East Acc	310.20	326.60	-15.90	...
International Acc	292.10	307.50	- 9.50	...
Special Sits	453.90	477.80	-13.60	...
European Flex	423.40	445.70	- 6.60	...

COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
(Unlts) Key	£211.19	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£203.02	...	...	...
-do- Cash	203.01	213.69	+ 0.06	...
-do- Equity	525.71	553.38	- 2.74	...
-do- Fxd Int	345.18	363.35	+ 2.64	...
-do- Managed	375.61	395.38	- 1.06	...
-do- Property	308.70	324.95	- 1.05	...
(Pensn) Cash Cap	207.93	218.88	+ 0.01	...
-do- Cash Inv	304.08	320.10	+ 0.24	...
-do- Equity Cap	£13.50	£14.21	-39.47	...
-do- Equity Inv	£19.75	£20.79	-56.29	...
-do- Fixed Cap	379.57	399.56	+ 3.71	...
-do- Fixed Inv	555.10	584.32	+ 5.81	...
-do- Index Cap	195.56	205.86	+ 0.26	...
-do- Index Inv	285.99	301.05	+ 0.58	...
Mngd Cap	539.42	567.82	-12.56	...
Mngd Inv	788.56	830.39	-17.61	...

COMMERCIAL UNION
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Var Ann Acc (5)	£660.04	...	-21.56	...
Var Ann (5)	188.32	...	- 2.34	...
Prime Managed	387.90	408.30	- 9.00	...
Prime UK Equity	462.40	486.50	-13.00	...
Prime Int Equity	298.00	313.70	- 7.40	...
Prime Property	254.40	267.80	+ 0.10	...
Prime Fxd Int	225.70	237.60	+ 1.20	...
Prime Index-Lnk	164.90	173.60	+ 0.40	...
Prime Cash	205.20	216.10	+ 0.10	...

CONFEDERATION LIFE
Lymon Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	£11.26	£11.86	+ 9.70	0.0
Equity Fund	£16.24	£17.09	-19.00	...

CROWN FINANCIAL
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Life Mangd Acc	576.90	607.20	-12.50	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	361.70	380.70	+ 4.00	...
Life Equity Acc	795.40	837.20	-20.20	...
Life Money Acc	300.90	316.70	+ 0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	791.20	832.90	-20.20	...
Life Intl Acc	490.80	516.70	-12.20	...
Life High Inc Acc	765.50	805.60	-22.00	...
Life Property Acc	265.20	279.10	+ 0.20	...
Crown Brit Inv A	£12.90	...		
Brewin Equity	662.50	697.30	-15.70	...

EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Secure Fund	175.10	184.40	+ 0.10	...
Blue Chip Fund	232.50	244.80	- 5.60	...
-do- Series 2	152.00	160.10	- 3.60	...
Adventurous Fd	188.10	198.00	- 5.10	...
-do- Series 2	143.80	151.40	- 3.80	...
Performance Fd	236.80	249.30	- 7.00	...
-do- Series 2	156.40	164.70	- 4.50	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	137.50	144.80	+ 2.00	...
UK Equity Fund	153.70	161.80	- 4.30	...
Property Fund	124.40	131.00	...	...
Envirnmntl Opps	154.50	162.70	- 2.80	...
Euro Fund	182.60	192.30	- 2.00	...
North Amer Fd	183.60	187.10	- 5.40	...
Oriental Ops	235.00	247.40	-13.40	...
Japanese Fund	127.60	134.40	- 5.00	...
Bd & West Life	123.50	130.10	+ 0.20	...
Bl & West Pen	139.00	146.40	+ 2.00	...

EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Eagle/Mid Uts	245.30	257.20	- 7.20	3.56

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed (Mixd)	293.60	309.10	- 7.40	...
UK Equity	382.50	402.70	-12.60	...
Stewardship	330.60	348.10	- 5.20	...
Overseas Equity	275.20	289.70	- 6.80	...
North American	141.60	149.10	- 2.60	...
Pacific Basin	162.20	170.90	- 5.50	...
European	209.90	220.90	- 2.20	...
Property	207.70	218.70	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	225.00	236.90	+ 2.10	...
Index Linked	162.90	171.40	+ 0.50	...
Cash	200.20	210.60	+ 0.10	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Equity				
Fixed Interest	526.90	554.50	+ 6.10	...
Managed	673.80	709.20	-14.90	...
Deposit	342.20	360.20	+ 0.50	...
Property	479.40	504.60	+ 0.50	...
American	386.00	407.20	- 8.40	...
Australian	505.10	531.60	- 2.40	...
European	515.60	542.90	- 5.10	...
Income Acc	723.10	761.10	-18.60	...
-do- Dis	427.40	450.00	-14.70	3.96
International	305.00	321.00	- 7.70	...
Japan Smaller	538.20	566.50	-15.30	...
Singapore & Mal	397.40	418.30	-15.20	...
Smaller Cos	395.40	416.20	- 5.10	...
Tokyo Fund	694.00	730.50	- 7.70	...
UK Equity	562.50	592.10	-19.50	...
CCM Vanec Mg	722.10	760.10	-15.10	...

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
GT Plan Far East	345.50	363.70	-17.60	...
GT Plan Wwide	493.10	519.10	-16.90	...

GENERAL ACCIDENT
2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	203.40	214.10	- 4.30	...
Unitised Profit	136.10	143.20	- 0.20	...
UK Equity	267.90	281.90	- 7.40	...
Fixed Int	187.90	197.70	+ 2.40	...
Index-Linked	159.60	167.90	+ 0.20	...
Cash Deposit	174.00	183.10	+ 0.10	...
Property	190.40	200.30	+ 0.10	...
International	171.30	180.20	- 4.20	...
American	150.90	158.70	- 2.30	...
Japan	248.60	261.60	- 9.50	...
Japan Smllr Cos	254.60	267.90	- 8.70	...
European	176.00	185.10	- 1.50	...
Pacific Fund	297.30	312.80	-10.00	...
Conv Life	121.90	128.20	- 2.00	...

GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE
Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Portfolio Acc	664.10	699.10	-12.40	...
-do- Inv A	664.00	699.00	-13.10	...
UK Equity	386.00	406.40	-10.20	...
Gilt Plus	197.70	208.20	- 2.70	...
Managed	294.10	309.70	- 5.70	...
Inter Man	264.60	278.60	- 4.50	...

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE
Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Ass Prop Bds	517.40	551.40	...	...
Managed Initial	442.70	466.00	-13.00	...
-do- Acc	630.90	664.10	-18.30	...
Equity Initial	656.60	691.20	-23.30	...
-do- Acc	935.40	985.70	-32.70	...
Fixed Int Initial	429.50	452.10	- 3.30	...
-do- Acc	612.10	644.30	+ 5.00	...
Intl Initial	443.00	466.30	-12.20	...
-do- Acc	631.30	664.50	-17.20	...
Nth Amer Initial	160.20	168.60	- 4.50	...
-do- Acc	207.90	218.70	+ 0.10	...
Pacific Initial	243.90	256.70	- 7.30	...
-do- Acc	313.30	329.80	- 9.20	...
Property Initial	183.10	192.70		
-do- Acc	260.50	274.20		
Index-Lnkd Intl	153.30	161.40	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	198.50	209.30	- 0.20	...
Deposit Initial	197.00	207.40	...	...
-do- Acc	280.90	295.60	+ 0.20	...
Euro Initial	105.90	109.40	- 0.20	...
-do- Acc	124.50	131.10	- 0.20	...

HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE
Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200959

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	162.20	170.70	- 7.10	...
-do- Pens	197.70	208.10	- 4.30	...
UK Equity	163.10	171.60	- 3.70	...
-do- Pens	184.30	193.90	- 5.50	...
International	143.10	150.60	- 4.10	...
-do- Pens	155.70	163.90	- 4.40	...
Deposit	139.70	147.00	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	165.20	173.50	+ 0.10	...

HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION
3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity Fd	346.00	364.10	- 7.10	...
North America	322.50	342.90	-11.70	...
Far East Fund	656.90	691.90	-26.70	...

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global Managed	456.80	486.10	-11.40	...
Deposit Fund	229.00	241.10	...	...
Prime Residential	136.00	143.20	...	...
European Fund	254.10	270.40	- 3.60	...
Fixed Interest	63.20	66.20	+ 0.80	...

HILL SAMUEL LIFE
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Security Fund	492.10	520.80	- 9.00	
British Fund	498.80	527.90	-12.90	...
International	521.80	552.20	-12.60	...
Dollar Fund	352.30	372.90	-11.10	...
Capital Fund	453.10	479.50	-11.90	...
Income Fund	650.10	688.00	-14.80	...
Property Series A	463.50	490.50	...	4.80
Property Units	762.30	800.50	...	...
Financial Fund	544.90	576.70	-14.00	...
Managed Ser A	515.90	546.00	-10.20	...
Managed Units	923.00	971.60	-18.40	...
High Yield Fund	609.00	644.50	-21.70	...
Money Series A	288.10	304.90	+ 0.20	...
Money Units	381.60	401.70	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fund	582.70	616.70	-14.60	...
Fixed Interest	352.10	372.60	+ 0.70	...
Indexed Secs	179.80	190.30	+ 0.20	...
European Fund	699.10	739.80	- 6.40	...
Natural Res	295.40	312.60	- 9.50	...
Far East Fund	655.40	693.60	-22.20	...
Smaller Cos	466.80	494.00	- 4.10	...
Special Sits	418.80	443.20	-10.10	...
Man Currency	262.00	277.30	+ 0.10	...
Japanese Tech	289.10	306.00	- 9.00	...
US Smaller Cos	220.00	232.90	- 7.40	...

IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3TF. 0727 48181

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global Managed	543.70	572.30	-11.50	...
Global Property	289.10	304.30	...	...
Global Fixed Int	500.20	526.50	+ 7.20	...
Global Equity	577.70	608.10	-16.30	...
Global Cash	213.40	224.60	+ 0.20	...

LAURENTIAN LIFE
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Gtd Mgd	475.40	500.40	+ 5.50	...
Property	487.10	512.70	- 0.30	...
Managed	399.20	420.20	- 9.30	...
American	372.50	392.10	-14.70	...
UK Equity Fd	424.60	446.90	-12.60	...
Japan	210.00	221.00	- 6.20	...
Index-Lkd	178.10	187.40	+ 0.50	...
High Yield	815.10	858.00	-25.90	...
Growth Cap	421.10	443.20	+ 5.50	...
Money	402.80	423.90	+ 0.30	...
International	384.30	404.50	-10.40	...
Henderson Active	212.50	223.60	- 6.60	...
Perpetual Active	313.30	329.70	-10.40	...
Growth Cap	421.10	443.20	+ 5.50	...
-do- Acc	624.20	657.00	-14.90	...

LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824800

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
B Soc Lnkd Inlt	135.00	142.20	...	...
-do- Acc	186.40	196.30	+ 0.10	...
Brit Opps Inr	136.80	144.00	- 3.50	...
-do- Acc	169.40	178.40	- 4.30	...
Cash Initial	167.40	176.30	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	287.40	302.60	+ 0.20	...
Equity Initial	625.50	658.50	-18.30	...
-do- Acc	£10.74	£11.30	-31.60	...
Fixed Initial	333.60	351.20	+ 3.20	...
-do- Acc	572.90	603.00	+ 5.40	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	129.70	136.60	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	190.10	200.20	+ 0.50	...
Intl Initial	334.10	351.70	- 9.90	...
-do- Acc	564.90	594.70	-16.60	...
Managed Initial	464.30	488.80	-10.90	...
-do- Acc	797.20	839.20	-18.80	...
Property Initial	217.30	228.80	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	373.20	392.90	+ 0.50	...

LINCOLN NATIONAL
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Units	£1123.76		- 3.72	...
Property Units	£1127.30	...		
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£62.33	£65.61	- 1.48	
2nd Equity Acc	610.20	642.30	-21.50	...
2nd High Inc Ac	590.40	621.50	-13.60	
2nd Property Acc	248.70	261.80	...	
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	177.40	186.70	- 0.20	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	453.20	477.20	- 9.80	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	224.70	236.50	- 5.60	
2nd Deposit Acc	280.20	294.90	+ 0.30	...
2nd Gilt Acc	294.90	310.40	+ 2.70	...
2nd Amer Acc	629.90	663.00	-20.00	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	261.00	274.80	+ 0.70	
2nd Index Acc	202.00	212.60	+ 0.50	
2nd Far East Acc	447.00	470.50	-15.20	
2nd Global Acc	171.40	180.50	- 2.10	
2nd Euro Acc	163.00	171.50	- 1.10	
2nd Japan Acc	198.60	209.10	- 4.80	
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	162.50	171.00	+ 0.70	
2nd Cap Gth Acc	125.10	131.70	- 2.70	

LONDON LIFE
100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0272 279179

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	1677.90	...	-16.30	...
Fixed Interest	1406.90	...	- 3.40	...
Property	1407.20		+ 0.40	
Deposit	1291.90		+ 0.10	
Mixed	1582.00		- 7.80	
Indexed Stock	1206.30		- 0.60	
International	1285.40		- 5.40	
Equity A	1203.80		- 4.20	
Fixed Int A	1161.50	...	- 1.50	
Property A	1179.00		+ 0.10	
Deposit A	1171.60		...	
Mixed A	1191.30		- 2.60	
Index Stock A	1161.60		+ 0.50	
International A	1178.40		- 2.10	
Equity P	1721.20		-15.20	
Fixed Int P	1537.50		+ 4.60	
Property P	1331.50		+ 0.50	
Deposit P	1343.10		+ 0.20	
Mixed P	1534.20		- 9.70	
Index Stock P	1236.30		+ 0.60	
International P	1332.00		- 4.50	

LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Trust Cap	£593.30	...	-12.90	...
-do- Acc	£975.40	...	-20.80	...
Property Cap	1152.60		...	...
-do- Acc	1245.50	...	+ 0.20	...
Fxd Interest Cap	2102.10	...	+ 2.10	...
-do- Acc	1307.50	...	+ 3.60	...
Equity Cap	1304.40	...	- 7.40	...
-do- Acc	1499.00	...	-11.70	...
Internatl Cap	1227.10	...	- 5.70	...
-do- Acc	1368.90	...	- 8.90	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	1165.50	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc	1264.50	...	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Cap	1312.00	...	- 6.50	...
-do- Acc	1542.80	...	-10.10	...
Moneymaker Fd	1419.40	...	- 7.40	...
Capital Growth	£16.21	...	-37.40	...

M & G
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Bond Acc	384.00	403.30	-18.10	...
Amer Rec Bond	448.00	470.50	-19.10	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	222.90	234.10	-11.60	...
Australasia Bd	229.00	240.60	- 6.30	...
Commodity Bond	318.80	334.90	-10.40	...
Deposit Bond Acc	361.20	379.30	+ 0.30	...
Equity Bond Acc	£14.99	£15.32	-45.70	...
European Bd Acc	376.20	395.10	- 4.80	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	700.00	735.10	-22.60	...
Far East Bd Acc	309.40	325.00	-15.80	...
Gilt Bond Acc	428.70	450.30	+ 6.40	...
Gold Bond Acc	164.20	172.50	-10.10	...
High Yield Bond	324.90	341.20	-10.30	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	201.80	213.00	+ 0.80	...
International Bd	756.80	794.80	-24.50	...
Japan Bond Acc	278.20	292.30	-10.10	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	269.60	283.20	- 9.70	...
Managed Bonds	856.60	899.60	-26.30	...
Prop Bond Acc	324.70	341.00	- 1.70	...
Rec Bond Acc	736.90	773.90	-17.80	...

MGM ASSURANCE
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	214.20	225.50	- 6.90	...
UK Equity Acc	301.90	317.80	- 9.40	...
Special Sits	88.50	93.20	- 1.50	...
Special Sits Acc	124.70	131.30	- 2.10	...
North American	166.60	175.40	- 4.30	...
N American Acc	234.90	247.30	- 5.80	...
Pacific Basin	362.40	381.50	-12.20	...
Pacific Basin Acc	510.80	537.70	-17.00	...
Fixed Interest	273.30	287.70	- 2.50	...
Fixed Interest Acc	385.70	406.00	+ 3.70	...
Property	176.30	186.30	...	...
Property Acc	249.60	262.80	+ 0.20	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	214.90	226.30	+ 0.30	...
Managed	248.90	262.00	- 6.30	...
Managed Acc	323.40	340.50	- 7.70	...

MANULIFE GROUP
St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	681.50	717.40	-19.80	...
Property Fund	549.90	578.70	+ 4.60	...
Equity Fund	850.40	895.20	-43.90	...
Gilt Edged Fd	597.40	628.80	+ 3.60	...
Deposit Fund	330.60	348.00	+ 0.20	...
Investment Fd	369.60	388.10	- 8.70	...
International	527.80	555.60	-11.30	...

MERCHANT INVESTORS
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property	456.80	480.80	- 0.30	...
UK Equity	333.50	351.00	- 8.50	...
Gilt Edged	944.10	993.70	+ 6.50	...
Interest Fund	385.80	406.10	+ 0.50	...
UK Fund	480.90	506.20	- 9.30	...
Intl Equity	605.10	636.90	-15.90	...
Intl Managed	564.70	594.40	-14.00	...
North American	205.40	216.20	- 4.70	...
Far East	470.80	495.50	-16.80	...
Intl Currency	256.80	270.30	+ 0.20	...

For NM Life see Friends Provident

NPI
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	465.50	490.00	-12.30	...
UK Equity	573.00	603.10	-18.60	...
Overseas Equity	463.70	488.10	-15.00	...
Americas	381.60	401.60	-12.50	...
Far East	546.70	575.40	-24.80	...
Property	222.30	233.80	- 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	372.90	392.50	+ 2.70	...
Indexed Gilt	224.60	236.40	+ 0.40	...
Deposit	216.40	227.70	+ 0.30	...

NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds
PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	£13.70	£14.42	-37.90	...
Eqity Fund	£29.66	£31.22	-73.80	...
Property Fd	576.10	606.50	- 0.70	...
Fixed Int Fd	573.60	603.80	+ 4.10	...
Deposit Fund	348.40	366.70	+ 0.30	...
Intl Fund	234.90	247.20	- 5.40	...

PEARL ASSURANCE
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Int Prop Dist	157.40	165.70	- 1.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	332.20	349.60	- 2.60	...
Inv Equity	£11.26	£11.96	-39.70	...
Inv Managed	910.30	953.01	-19.40	...
Ret Managed	913.10	961.20	-23.10	...

PROVIDENCE CAPITOL
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Fund Acc	275.10	290.20	- 9.30	...
Fxd Interest Acc	235.10	248.00	- 2.30	...
International Acc	252.80	266.70	- 6.50	...
Managed Acc	216.80	228.70	- 4.70	...
Property Acc	230.40	243.10	...	...
Money Acc	154.10	162.60	+ 0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	227.20	239.70	- 4.50	...
Japan Equity Acc	124.70	131.60	- 3.90	...
N Amer Acc	148.90	157.10	- 5.10	...
Pacific Acc	163.90	172.90	- 8.60	...
European Acc	187.50	197.80	- 2.60	...

PROVIDENT MUTUAL
William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 739000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Ord	469.20	493.40	-10.70	...
Managed Initial	309.90	326.20	- 7.50	...
Equity Ord	682.30	718.20	-20.30	...
Equity Init	460.50	484.70	-14.00	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	194.90	205.20	+ 0.50	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	137.40	144.60	+ 0.20	...
Oseas Equity Ord	372.30	391.90	- 9.40	...
Oseas Equity Init	251.20	264.40	- 6.70	...
Property Ord	281.70	296.50	+ 0.20	...
Property Init	190.10	200.10	...	...
Fixed Int Ord	272.30	286.60	+ 2.60	...
Fixed Int Init	183.70	193.40	+ 1.60	...
Deposit Ord	206.20	217.10	+ 0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.20	146.50	...	...

PRUDENTIAL
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	327.30	341.00	- 3.20	...

PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	762.50	802.70	-21.40	...
Equity Fund	£14.05	£14.79	-51.20	...
Intl Fund	600.30	631.90	-16.30	...
Fixed Interest	550.00	579.00	+ 4.20	...
Property Fund	475.60	500.70	- 0.10	...
Cash Fund	364.60	383.80	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	359.20	378.10	-14.80	...
N American Fd	223.70	235.50	- 6.00	...
Euro Fund	259.50	273.20	- 1.90	...
Balanced Fund	148.80	156.70	- 4.20	...
Strategic Fund	155.80	164.00	- 4.80	...

ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Mult Grow (45)	1728.10	...	...	...
-do- Acc	440.00	463.20		
Op Prop	483.90	509.40	- 2.10	...
Op Equity	882.10	928.60	-26.20	...
Op High Yield	565.10	594.90	+ 6.30	...
Op Managed	781.70	822.90	-17.40	...
Op Deposit	392.40	413.10	+ 0.30	...
Inc Gth	282.20	297.20	- 7.10	...
Japan Smlr	270.90	285.20	-10.10	...
Managed Gth	268.50	281.60	- 5.80	...
Gilt	78.20	82.40	+ 1.90	...
British	343.40	361.50	-10.20	...
Global Bond	107.90	113.60	+ 1.70	...
Global (35.34)	160.90	169.40	- 2.60	...
Gold Share	94.10	99.10	- 4.70	...
High Income	293.30	308.80	- 4.90	...
Income	413.40	435.20	-11.00	...
Japan	433.40	456.30	-12.00	...
UK Smlr Cos	335.60	353.30	- 1.80	...
Mngd Growth	435.40	458.40	- 7.00	...

ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 5000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Royal Shield Fd	942.30	997.10	-18.00	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	374.30	394.00	- 7.00	...
Equity Fund	514.70	541.70	-15.80	...
Property Fund	341.00	358.90	- 0.60	...
International	469.40	494.10	-13.50	...
Pacific Basin	277.00	291.50	-11.80	...
United States	234.50	246.80	- 9.50	...
Gilt Fund	355.20	373.80	+ 3.90	...

SAVE & PROSPER
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Bal Inv Fund	750.80	794.90	- 6.00	2.38
Deposit Fund (2)	370.60	392.20	+ 0.30	5.75
Gilt Fund	507.00	536.60	+ 5.50	8.39
Global Equity Fd	232.40	246.00	- 4.60	...
Property Fund (46)	110.90	117.40	...	6.55
AG Bond Fund	152.10	161.00	- 4.30	...

SCOTTISH AMICABLE
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	569.50	599.50	-12.00	...
Fixed Interest	361.30	380.40	+ 3.10	...
Index-Linked	190.60	200.70	+ 0.30	...
International	452.90	476.80	- 9.60	...
Property	296.60	312.30	+ 0.30	...
Cash	229.80	241.90	+ 0.20	...
Managed	457.40	481.50	- 8.10	...
Cap Gteed Bd	108.80	114.60	- 2.70	...

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	181.11	190.64	+ 0.13	...
Index-Linked	156.60	164.80	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	169.30	178.20	+ 2.00	...
Mixed	249.70	262.80	- 2.70	...
UK Equity	232.70	245.00	- 3.90	...
International	256.50	270.00	- 5.00	...
American	241.50	254.30	- 3.40	...
Japan	234.30	246.70	- 5.60	...
European	256.20	269.70	- 2.70	...
Pacific	365.50	384.70	-14.40	...
Technology	356.00	374.70	- 5.80	...
Currency/Currncy	223.20	234.90	+ 4.00	...

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property	223.80	235.70	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	339.20	357.20	- 8.50	...
American	235.20	247.70	- 6.60	...
Pacific	351.00	369.60	-15.50	...
European	464.40	488.90	- 7.50	...
International	300.20	316.10	- 9.10	...
Fixed Interest	230.80	243.00	- 1.60	...
Index Linked	189.60	199.70	- 0.40	...
Deposit	194.00	204.30	+ 0.10	...
Managed	276.90	291.60	- 6.20	...
Worldwide	118.10	124.40	- 4.00	...
Pen Worldwide	125.10	131.70	- 5.00	...

SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Flex Fund (25)	£16.33	£16.84	...	...
Safety Fund	227.90	239.90	- 0.20	...
Growth Fund	222.50	234.30	- 4.80	...
Opportunity Fd	218.50	230.10	- 4.20	...
Cash Fund	174.50	183.70	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	334.30	351.90	- 3.00	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	195.10	205.40	+ 1.60	...
Index-Linked Fd	176.10	185.40	+ 0.30	...
International Fd	278.50	293.20	- 7.20	...
North American	222.30	234.00	- 7.00	...
Property Fund	134.20	141.30		
UK Equity	225.70	248.20	- 6.50	...
UK Smaller	227.20	239.20	- 1.40	...

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT
6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Mixed	258.70	272.40	- 4.90	...
Equity	265.60	279.60	- 6.50	...
International	277.70	292.40	- 6.90	...
Property	233.40	245.80	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	210.50	221.70	+ 1.60	...
Index Linked	174.60	183.90	+ 0.50	...
Cash	186.70	196.70	+ 0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	777.20	827.40	-14.20	...
Cash Fund	339.30	357.60	+ 0.30	...
Property Fund	294.10	310.00	+ 0.60	...
Equity Fund	904.90	962.90	-23.50	...
Fxd Interest Fund	445.80	469.90	+ 4.40	...
International	405.70	431.60	-10.60	...
High Income	672.20	715.20	-14.40	...
Far East	602.40	640.90	-20.20	...
North American	505.20	537.60	-14.70	...
Special Sits	610.20	649.20	- 6.90	...
Technology	529.50	563.30	-23.40	...
Extra Income Fd	365.20	388.60	- 8.10	...
Gilt Fund	468.50	498.50	+ 2.60	...
European	148.00	157.50		
Adventurous Mg	213.50	224.80	- 5.30	...
Secure Mgd	143.30	152.50	- 0.70	
Equity Inc Dist	113.60	119.80	- 2.40	4.90
North American	106.80	112.60	- 1.20	5.33

SCOTTISH WIDOWS
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Pol 1	920.50	920.50	-22.50	...
Inv Pol 2	836.60	880.70	-21.60	...
Inv Pol 3	799.70	841.90	-20.60	...
Inv Cash	314.20	330.80	+ 0.30	...
Mixed Fund	436.70	459.80	- 9.80	...
Equity Fund	505.90	532.60	-14.40	...
Property Fund	246.30	259.40	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	486.00	511.70	-12.00	...
Fixed Interest Fd	365.00	384.30	- 3.50	...
Indexed Stock Fd	191.50	201.70	+ 0.40	...
Cash Fund	227.80	239.90	+ 0.20	...

SKANDIA LIFE
Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Acc	368.20	387.50	- 6.50	...
Equity Acc	432.60	455.30	- 9.60	...
International Acc	336.30	353.90	- 9.20	...
Property	234.60	246.90	- 0.20	...
Royal Trust Mg	231.80	244.00	- 5.40	...

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO
3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	268.40	282.60	+ 0.20	...
Equity	968.90	£10.19	-29.30	...
European	168.60	177.50	- 1.60	...
Far East	169.90	178.90	- 5.80	...
Fixed Interest	385.40	405.70	+ 2.40	...
Index Linked	202.60	213.30	+ 0.40	...
International	606.20	638.20	-14.40	...
Managed	683.70	719.70	-17.20	...
Nth American	137.10	144.40	- 3.50	...
Property	363.00	382.20	+ 0.50	...
Pensions				
Cash	417.80	439.80	+ 0.30	...
Equity	£13.80	£14.52	-47.60	...
European	199.50	210.00	- 2.70	...
Far East	135.60	142.80	- 5.10	...
Fixed Interest	530.50	558.50	+ 3.70	...
Index Linked	281.40	296.30	+ 0.60	...
International	846.10	890.70	-22.70	...
Managed	952.70	£10.02	-26.90	...
Nth American	167.90	176.80	- 4.80	...
Property	494.00	520.10	+ 0.70	...
Stock Exchange	214.10	225.40	- 6.30	...

SUN ALLIANCE
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	629.60	662.80	-16.80	...
Equity Fund	920.70	963.90	-22.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	402.30	423.40	+ 3.10	...
Index-Linked Fd	307.80	324.00	+ 0.50	...
Property Fund	521.20	548.70	- 3.80	...
International Fd	597.40	628.90	-21.40	...
N American Fd	220.80	232.50	- 7.20	...
Far East Fund	322.50	339.50	- 9.50	...
Deposit Fund	296.40	312.00	+ 0.20	...
International Bd	£84.56	...	+ 0.04	...
Worldwide Bond	149.30	157.20	+ 2.00	...
European	160.60	169.10	- 1.80	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	625.50	658.50	-19.10	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	455.00	486.00	+ 4.50	...

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Growth	[illegible]	...	- 4.10	...
Property Fund	£561.00	...	- 3.80	...
-do- Acc	[illegible]	...	- 5.40	...
Agricultural Fd	[illegible]	...	- 0.90	...
-do- Acc	[illegible]	...	- 1.30	...
Abbey Nat Fd	1444.80	...	- 1.50	...
Abbey Nat Acc	[illegible]	...	- 2.40	...
Investment Fd	1334.80	...	- 2.10	...
Investment (A)	[illegible]	...	- 2.20	...
Equity	[illegible]	...	-38.20	...
Equity Acc	[illegible]	...	- 0.80	...
Money Fund	[illegible]	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	[illegible]	...	+ 0.60	...
Actuarial Fd	1354.70	...	-11.70	...
Gilt Edged Fd	[illegible]	...	+ 2.30	...
-do- Acc	[illegible]	...	+ 2.90	...
Retire Annuity	[illegible]	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	[illegible]	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	[illegible]	...	+ 0.20	...

SUN LIFE OF CANADA
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ
Dealing: 0256 841414

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth Account	£14.24	...	-48.40	...
Managed Acc	[illegible]	...	+ 9.20	...
Equity Account	£11.56	...	-15.10	...
Mixed Fund Acc	377.60	397.50	+ 4.40	...
Equity Fund Acc	509.50	536.50	+ 6.80	...
Prop Fund Acc	265.70	279.70	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	295.10	312.60	+ 1.50	...
Money Fund Acc	222.30	233.80	+ 0.20	...
Index-Lnk Sec Acc	290.50	308.00	+ 0.40	...
Pers Pens Acct	£19.57	...	- 2.20	...
Pens Mngd Acc	886.80	927.50	-12.10	...
Pens Guarantee	251.70	264.20	+ 0.40	...
Pens Equity	329.15	346.60	- 1.00	...
Pens Property	302.35	318.00	+ 0.07	...
Pens Fixed Int	275.30	289.70	+ 2.50	...
Pens Intl	241.10	253.80	- 1.40	...
Pens Money	236.00	248.40	+ 0.30	...
Pens Index-Lnkd	290.00	305.00	- 0.50	...

SUN LIFE UNIT
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Acc	871.20	917.30	-19.80	...
Property Acc	309.70	326.10	- 5.80	...
Equity Acc	£13.09	£14.13	-35.30	...
Fixed Int Acc	386.90	407.30	+ 3.90	...
Index-Linked Acc	195.60	205.90	+ 0.60	...
Cash Acc	309.20	325.50	+ 0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	334.50	352.20	- 7.10	...
Japan Acc	312.80	329.30	- 7.60	...
Pacific Acc	363.70	382.90	-21.80	...
Far Eastern Acc	648.30	693.00	-40.80	...
International Acc	579.40	609.90	-17.00	...
Distribution Fund	259.40	273.60	- 2.50	6.17
European	189.60	199.60	- 2.70	...

TSB LIFE LTD
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 345678

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	274.40	288.90	- 6.30	...
Property Fund	229.50	241.70	- 1.20	...
Fixed Interest Fd	277.50	292.00	+ 2.00	...
Money Fund	203.10	213.80	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	334.50	353.90	-10.30	...

TARGET LIFE
The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Deposit	249.30	262.50	+ 0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	44.40	47.70	- 1.40	...
Fixed Interest	318.80	335.60	+ 2.10	...
Gold	80.62	84.90	- 4.40	...
Managed	592.00	623.30	-16.20	...
Mngd Growth	190.40	200.40	- 3.80	...
Mngd Opp	202.10	212.80	- 5.50	...
Property	334.60	352.30	+ 1.10	...
Residential Prop	102.80	108.40	...	...
TSB American	179.90	189.50	- 7.90	...
TSB Brit Gwth	798.50	840.70	-37.00	...
TSB European	267.90	282.10	- 3.70	...
TSB Income	374.50	394.70	- 8.10	...
TSB Intl	412.60	432.30	-12.90	...
TSB Intl Inc	220.80	285.20	- 0.90	...
TSB Pacific	422.60	444.90	-20.80	...
TSB Prem Inc	245.40	256.40	+ 0.60	...

WINDSOR LIFE
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Bond	651.40	686.40	-15.90	...
Money Fund	317.90	334.60	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	587.30	619.40	...	...
Fixed Interest	268.20	282.40	...	...
Property Fund	365.60	384.80	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	541.60	570.10	-28.20	...
Income	717.40	746.00	-18.70	...
International Gth	601.60	633.90	-23.00	...
Capital Fund	611.10	643.90	- 2.10	...
Recovery Fund	626.40	660.30	-16.00	...
Japan & General	265.10	279.30	- 9.00	...
Formerly Allianz				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.09	19.04	+ 0.02	...
Bear	18.99	19.94	- 0.20	...
Owl	19.22	20.23	- 0.26	...
Bull	17.21	18.12	- 0.17	...
Stag	18.00	18.95	- 0.42	...
Gilt Edged	18.24	19.20	+ 0.27	...
Deposit	15.84	16.67	+ 0.02	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	24.53	25.82	+ 0.02	...
Bear	25.98	27.35	- 0.50	...
Owl	26.29	27.67	- 0.48	...
Bull	22.08	23.24	- 0.14	...
Stag	22.47	23.65	- 0.52	...
Gilt Edged	22.98	26.11	+ 0.36	...
Deposit	20.44	21.25	+ 0.25	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	556.96	...	+ 5.52	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	320.44	337.31	+ 7.66	...
N Amer Equity	258.62	272.23	-11.77	...
Far East Equity	376.89	396.73	-30.34	...
Fixed	287.22	302.34	+ 4.39	...
Cash Deposit	205.15	215.95	+ 0.13	...
Property	156.25	164.47	- 0.15	...
Special Opp	342.66	360.69	- 5.65	...
Managed	294.60	310.11	- 3.08	...
Index-Linked Fd	186.58	196.40	+ 1.33	...

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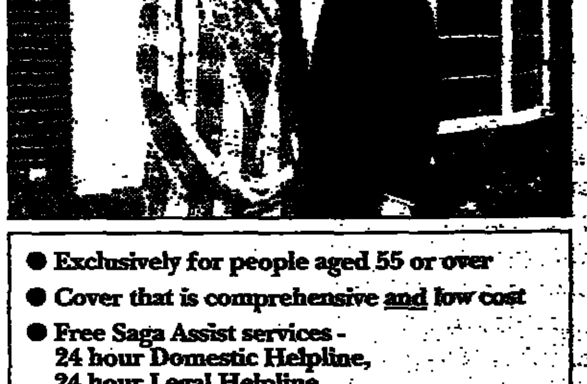
"Hurrah again for lower charges. M&G the UK's largest unit trust and personal equity plan (Pep) manager, has launched a unit trust Pep which makes no initial charge. It is M&G's second no initial charge Pep . . . ."

INVESTORS CHRONICLE *16th September 1994*

THE M&G PEP

Renewing your home insurance in December or January?

If you're 55 or over, save with Saga Homecare.



You will know how expensive home insurance can be - particularly if your insurance company is also having to insure younger, less careful householders.

Thankfully, if you're aged 55 or over you can benefit from Saga Homecare - a superior household insurance that's only available to mature, responsible people like you.

Because of this, Saga Homecare can offer you genuine savings over other policies, while giving you cover that fully protects your home and possessions.

So if your home insurance is due for renewal soon, or if you would simply like to find out how much you could save with Saga Homecare, call us today - free.

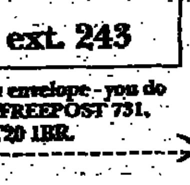
The Saga Price Promise

If you find another comparable policy at a lower price within 2 months of taking out Saga Homecare, we'll refund you the difference.

- **Exclusively for people aged 55 or over**
- **Cover that is comprehensive and low cost**
- **Free Saga Assist services - 24 hour Domestic Helpline, 24 hour Legal Helpline, 24 Hour Glazing Service, Key Recovery Service**
- **Free pen with your quotation**
- **Save 30% on worldwide flights - full details with your quote**

Call us today!

Lines open today 9am - 1pm.



For your free no-obligation quote, and a free Saga pen, simply call us on the number below. We will be pleased to answer any questions you have on Saga Homecare.

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Services Ltd

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Alternatively, send this coupon to us in an envelope - you do not need a stamp: Saga Services Limited, FREEPOST 731, Middelburg Square, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1BR.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss) ______ Initial ______
Address ______
Postcode ______
Date of birth Mr / / Mrs/Miss / /
Telephone no. ______ No. of bedrooms ______
Policy Renewal Date / /

Type of Property:
Detached House ☐ Semi-detached House ☐
Terraced House ☐ Detached Bungalow ☐
Semi-detached Bungalow ☐ Flat/Maisonette ☐
Other ☐ Please specify ______

HU243

Approximately when was it built:
Pre 1920 ☐ 1920-1945 ☐ 1946-79 ☐ 1980-Present ☐

Please tick the type of cover for which you would like a quotation: Buildings Cover ☐ Home Contents Cover ☐

Answer YES to the following and you could save up to 15% on your Contents premium.

Does your home have an annually maintained burglar alarm? Yes ☐ No ☐

Is a 5-lever mortise lock fitted to the final exit door? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are all other external doors fitted with key-operated locks or bolts? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are secure key-operated locks fitted to all accessible windows? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you an active member of a Police Approved Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? Yes ☐ No ☐

For insurance on listed buildings and those of a non-standard construction, flats and maisonettes, or if you are the landlord of the property to be insured, please telephone 0800 414525 extension 243 for your quote, or tick box for further details. ☐

هكذا من الأصل

INTEREST RATES ROUNDUP

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.38	0.28	0.20	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	4.56	3.42	2.74	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	5.06	3.80	3.04	35,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	3.97	2.80	2.82	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	5.12	3.84	3.07	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	4.83	3.47	2.78	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 529655
" "	5.19	3.89	3.11	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 529655
NatWest	4.75	3.56	2.85	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" "	5.25	3.94	3.15	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland IntlC	3.50	2.63	2.10	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	2.50	1.88	1.50	1,000‡	none	051 2546236
Co-operative Current Acct	0.25	0.18	0.14	none	none	071 626 6543
Citibank	4.75	3.56	2.85	2,000‡	none	0800 555884
Lloyds HICA	1.00	0.75	0.60	500‡	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	1.50	1.13	0.90	2,000‡	none	0742 529655
Abbey National HICA	1.00	0.75	0.60	1,000‡	none	Local Branch
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	2.00	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	031-558 8555
TSB Bank Istat Cheque Acct	1.00	0.75	0.60	2,000‡	none	071-600 6020
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	1.00	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
Northern Rock	6.65	4.99	3.99	20,000 min	Postal	——
Birm Midshires	6.95	5.21	4.17	100,000 min	Postal	——
Northern Rock	6.55	4.91	3.93	10,000 min	60 day	——
Asset(Bristol&West)	6.85	5.14	4.11	25,000 min	90 day	——
Alliance&Leicester	7.20	5.40	4.32	50,000 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
Skipton	6.10	4.58	3.66	2,000 min	Instant	——
Greenwich	6.60	4.95	3.96	25,000 min	30 day	——
Northern Rock	6.95	5.14	4.11	25,000 min	60 day	——
National Counties	6.95	5.21	4.17	20,000 min	90 day	——
Norwich&Peterbor	7.05	5.29	4.23	5,000 min	1 year	——

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5766 for further details

NATIONAL SAVINGS					
Ordinary A/c¹	3.25	2.44	1.95	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c²	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-499	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond³	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3 mth	0253 766151
8th Index Linkd⁴	3.00	3.00	3.00	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
42nd Issue Cert⁵	5.85	5.85	5.85	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan⁶	5.85	5.85	5.85	20-400/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.85	7.85	7.85	25-10,000		
Geo Ed Retirt	3.51	3.51	3.51			
Capital Bond⁸	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8 days	041-649-4555
1st Option Bond⁹	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-19,999		
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
AIG Life	5.75	5.75	4.89	50,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
AIG Life	6.40	6.40	5.44	50,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Laurentian Life	7.20	7.20	6.12	50,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
General Portfolio	7.00	7.00	5.95	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5766
Laurentian Life	7.70	7.70	6.55	50,000 min	5 yrs	for details

RATES		**HOLIDAY RATES**	£ buys
RPI (Sept 83-94)	+2.2%	Spanish Pesetas:	196.50
Bank Base Rate	5.75%	French Francs:	8.14
Personal Loan	28%	Greek Drachmas:	370.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2460.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum investmt	Telephone number
Market Harbor.	7.60	£3,228.00	90 day loss/notice	£9,000	0858 463244
Hinkley&Rugby	7.50	£3,225.00	90 day loss	£9,000	0455 251234
Holmesdale	7.40	£3,222.00	60 day loss	£1	0737 245716
Tipton&Coseley	7.35	£3,220.50	7 days notice&£20	£1	021 5572551
National Count.	7.30	£3,215.00	90 day loss	£9,000	0372 742211

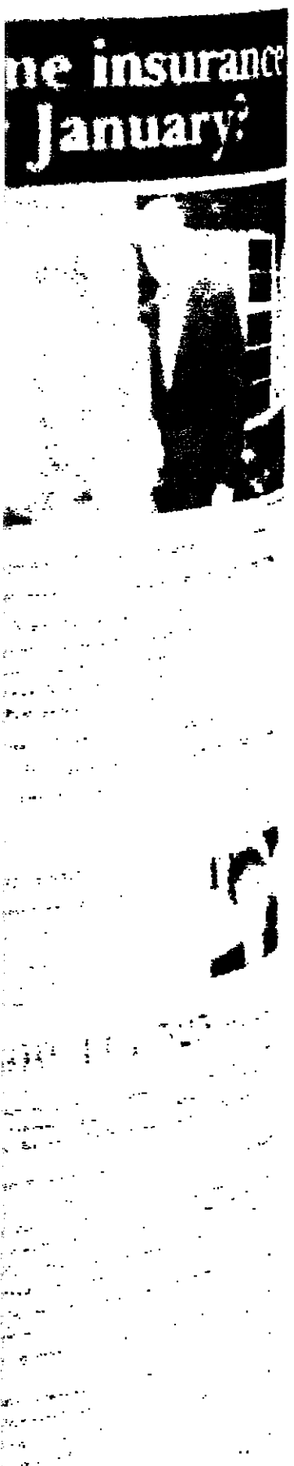
¹ 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less ² Additional holdings up to £20,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates ³Tax free ⁴Interest taxable paid gross ⁵Higher rates for larger sums ⁶ Guaranteed over the rate of inflation ⁷ 0.5% net bonus for amounts £20,000+

Compiled by JOANNA DUROWSE

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Yorkshire 0800 378838	1.70%	£25k-£150k	95%	Rates fixed to 1.10.95
Skipton 0800 580545	1.89%	to £250k	95%	6% disc for 6 mnths 2% disc for 12 mnths
Coventry 01203 839333	2.40%	to £125k	75%	After 5.74% disc to 1.8.95
BANKS				
Bank of Ireland 01734 605000	2.95%	£20k-£210k	90%	After 5.10% disc to 1.11.95
OTHER				
Bank of Scotland	2.99%	£30k +	95%	Fixed for 6 months

Rates correct at 25/11/94. Products searched on loans available with an advance of £80k. Data supplied by Bisy's Mortgage Research Systems. For further information telephone Bisy's Guides on 01753 880482



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1) If your certificate has a transfer on the back sign it, and send with the completed coupon. If not, still send the certificate and a transfer will be posted to you.

2) The shares will be sold following receipt of the signed certificate(s) and transfer where required the next morning when the Stock Exchange is open for business.
Your shares will be bulked with others so may result in a higher or lower price than if sold alone.

3) A contract note and cheque (post-dated to the Stock Exchange settlement date) less the charge will be sent to you the business day following the sale.

4) If you are selling part of a holding and require a certificate for the balance, an additional charge of £5 is made to cover administration costs involved.

Please attach this coupon to the certificates you want to sell. There is no need to list the certificates but space is available below if you wish to do so. SEND NO MONEY.

NAME OF STOCK
i) _____
ii) _____
Signature _____
Name (in capital) _____
Address _____
_____
_____
Postcode _____ Telephone (daytime) _____

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SHAREBUY ☎ : 0171 384 4418

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Put compulsory saving through income tax on agenda

From Mr W. R. Lodder

Sir, Anne Ashworth and Robert Miller (Weekend Money, November 19) report Treasury officials as emphasising that no area is sacred in the Treasury review of consumer saving, investment and tax. Keynes's ideas on compulsory saving *through income tax should be* included in that review.

Central Statistical Office data show that the seasonally adjusted saving ratio (personal saving as a percentage of total personal disposable income) fell to 9.3 per cent in the second quarter of 1994. The ratio is now at its lowest level since the last quarter of 1990. The UK saving ratio is one of the lowest of the industrial countries. The UK consumes too much and saves too little.

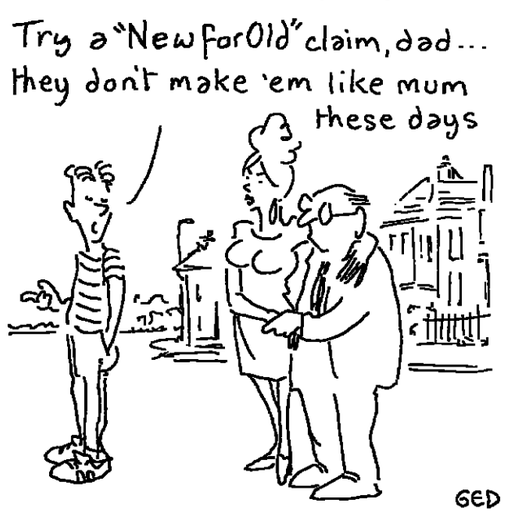
A low saving ratio has worrying implications both as regards inflation and investment. Unless the production capacity of the economy expands in line with both domestic and export demand, economic recovery will come to a standstill.

The tax system gives various incentives to encourage voluntary savings. Billions of pounds have been invested in tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas) and personal equity plans (Peps), but the UK savings ratio has still fallen. Perhaps *the ceilings on Tessas and* Peps should be raised, and other schemes, such as the enterprise investment scheme, expanded? However, such a solution has significant disadvantages. There is a considerable loss in tax. It has been suggested that the potential tax loss is so large, that instead of the ceiling on Peps being raised, Peps could be capped in the Budget. The five-year time limit on Tessas means that when the first schemes begin to mature in early 1996, large sums of potential purchasing power will be released.

If it is unlikely that voluntary saving will be sufficient, then Keynes's ideas on compulsory saving through the income tax system should be debated. Personal allowances, tax bands and tax rates could be frozen in the Budget. However, a proportion of each individual's tax could be placed to their credit in a blocked deposit in, for example, National Savings. The credits could be *released as and when justified* by the state of the economy. In addition, the credits could be released for an individual on retirement, or in the event of personal need, such as sickness or unemployment.

In recent Budgets, the Government has increased taxes, both direct and indirect. No apparent thought has been given to more imaginative ideas, such as compulsory saving. In a letter to *The Times* of November 14, 1939, Keynes wrote: "It makes all the difference in the world to each individual personally whether the excess of his income over his consumption is taken from him by tax or by loan. To him personally, government stock is an addition to his wealth, to his security, and to his comfort in facing the future. It gives him a claim over the future resources of the community. Someone will have to meet this claim. But this someone is not necessarily himself, and, even if it were, it may suit him better and involve less sacrifice to part by instalments with his personal resources and to possess meanwhile a title to wealth which he can realise in case of need. Moreover, even in war we cannot afford to dispense altogether with the economic incentive to effort — which a too exclusive financing by taxation would involve."

Yours faithfully,
W. R. LODDER,
Department of Finance and Accountancy,
University of Brighton,
Walls Building,
Moulsecoomb, Brighton.



New for old

From Mr George Ball

Sir, Following a recent burglary, I made a "New for Old" insurance claim for, *inter alia*, a video camera. This was based on the purchase price and included full details, such as dates and serial numbers.

The assessors reduced this dramatically, on the ground that a similar item had come down in price. They then went further by saying that they had an agreement with the suppliers, which gave them an extra 10 per cent discount when buying replacements.

All of *which seems* fair enough, but my premium is paid on the original purchase price, increased annually by inflation.

I can only conclude that, along with almost every other householder, I am paying too high a premium by 10 per cent and more.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE BALL,
The Wall House,
Wimborne Road, Leicester.

Goodwill equals food

From Alison R. Noyes

Sir, After 11 months of banking with Alliance & Leicester Giro, by accident I overdrew by 0.05p for two days in August. I was charged £15 for this, but the building society agreed to waive the fee.

By accident, I overdrew again on a Friday in October, by £1.57. Realising my mistake, I paid £2 into my account the following Monday and telephoned the same day to explain this and to ask that the overdraft fee be waived.

This time, the building society would not waive the fee because "our records show that a *goodwill refund* [my italics] was made to your account ... and therefore as your recent charges were correctly raised in accordance with our charging policy, I am unable to refund them".

I have been charged £15 on an overdraft of £1.57 lasting four days, a charging rate of 238.85 per cent per day.

I am on a low salary. If I were on a high salary, either I would not be overdrawn or I would care only about the principle of this. As it is, £15, to me, is money for food.

Yours faithfully,
ALISON R. NOYES,
69 Gondar Gardens, NW6.

Weekend Money has a new fax number, 071-782 5082, for letters and other news

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IN PARLIAMENT

SESSION 1994-95

CHANNEL TUNNEL RAIL LINK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to introduce in the present Session of Parliament a Bill under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:-

1. The provision of a high speed rail link between St Pancras, London, and the Channel Tunnel Terminal at Folkestone ("the rail link") to be constructed by an undertaker nominated by order made by the Secretary of State under the Intended Act. The works to be constructed by an undertaker so nominated comprise the following:-

IN the London Boroughs of CAMDEN and ISLINGTON -

Work No. 1 - Railways between St Pancras and Highbury Corner of which -
- Works Nos. 1A and 1B are railways for international services to and from St Pancras Station, passing northwards from that station, then eastwards to the North London Line corridor, Work No. 1A passing into tunnel in the former Kings Cross Goods Yard, while Work No. 1B passes on viaduct over the Great Northern Suburban Line and the East Coast Main Line, then into tunnel beneath Caledonian Road;
- Works Nos. 1C and 1D are railways for domestic services to and from an eastward extension of St Pancras Station, passing northwards then eastwards to junctions with Works Nos. 1B and 1A respectively in the former Kings Cross Goods Yard;
- Works Nos. 1G and 1H provide links between Work No. 1A and the Midland Main Line out of St Pancras Station; and
- Works Nos. 1E, 1F and 1J provide junctions between Work No. 1A and the North London Incline Railway and a realignment of part of the railway;

Works Nos. 2, 2A and 2B comprise alterations of Thameslink to form a tunnel for a new station beneath St Pancras Station and two lines passing underground from the northern end of the station tunnel to a point east of York Way, then continuing northwards to a junction with the Great Northern Suburban Line at the Copenhagen Tunnel. These works include, as Works Nos.2C to 2E, crossovers on Thameslink within, or partly within, the Copenhagen Tunnel and the Clerkenwell Tunnel and a connection between Thameslink and the Midland Main Line at Kentish Town;

Works Nos. 3 and 3A provide for diversion of the Midland Main Line within, and northward from, St Pancras Station and a railway for construction purposes only between that railway and the Great Northern Suburban Line;

Works Nos 4A to 4S provide for improvement of passenger connections and other facilities between St Pancras Station and the Victoria, Northern, Piccadilly and Circle and Metropolitan Lines of London Underground, including the provision of new ticket halls in the German Gym off Pancras Road, beneath the forecourt of St Pancras Station off Euston Road and beneath the northern side of the forecourt of the Great Northern Hotel and new or enlarged passenger subways;

Works Nos. 5A to 5H *are new roads* and road diversions near St Pancras Station comprising -
- as Work No 5A, realignment of Camley Street between Granary Street and Goods Way;
- as Work No 5B, a new road between the entrance from Pancras Road to St Pancras Old Church and the junction of Midland Road with Euston Road;
- as Work No. 5C, a new road between Camley Street near its junction with Goods Way and the junction of Pancras Road with Euston Road;
- *as Work No 5D, a new road between Work No. 5A, passing under St* Pancras Station and across Work No. 5C to a junction with Goods Way;
- as Works Nos. 5D (1) and 5D(2), a road for construction purposes between Battle Bridge Road and Wharf Road, including temporary bridges over Goods Way and the Regent's Canal and a widening of Wharf Road;
- as Work No. 5E, a road between York Way and a point on the eastern side of the Midland Main Line, south of the North London Line bridge over that railway;
- as Works Nos. 5F and 5F(1), a road between Pancras Road and Cheney Road and a road passing along the frontage of the Great Northern Hotel; and
- as Works Nos. 5G and 5H, widenings of Euston Road on its southern side between junctions with Cressfield Street and Birkenhead Street on its northern side for a distance of 45 metres east of its junction with Euston Square.

Works Nos. 5J to 5P are diversions of sewers in the St Pancras area comprising -
- as Work No. 5J, diversion of the Fleet Sewer in Pancras Road between its junctions with Chenies Place and Wellers Court;
- as Work No. 5K, diversion of the Midland Road Sewer between the junction of that road with Euston Road and its junction with Brill Place;
- as Work No. 5L, diversion of the Camden Sewer between the North London Line bridge over York Way and the Maiden Lane bridge over the Regent's Canal;
- as Work No.5M, diversion of the Caledonian Road branch of the Fleet Sewer between the North London Line bridge over that road and its junction with Copenhagen Street;
- as Work No. 5N, diversion of the Camley Street Sewer in conformity with Work No. 5A to Battle Bridge Road, thence continuing to a junction with Work No. 5J; and
- *as Work No. 5P, diversion of the Goods Way Sewer on the line of the* new road proposed as Work No. 5D.

IN the London Boroughs of ISLINGTON, HACKNEY, NEWHAM and WALTHAM FOREST -

Work No. 6 - Continuation of the main railway in tunnel under the North London Line corridor beneath Highbury Corner, Dalston Lane, Kenworthy Road and the East Cross route, the River Lea Navigation and the River Lea, including ventilation shafts on land off Corsica Street and Graham Road, then at Stratford, passing in retained cutting ("the Stratford box") for a distance of about 1km in land forming part of the International Freight Terminal and the former Chobham Farm Container Depot, including tunnels carrying specified railways and roads over the Stratford box, and terminating near Angel Lane bridge over the Great Eastern Railway. This section includes -
- as Works Nos. 6A, 6E and 6F, railways between Work No 6 from the western end of the Stratford box to the Temple Mills Marshalling Yard on the Lea Valley Line passing north-eastwards, in tunnel beneath the Old Yard Sidings and the Lea Valley Line at Stratford, then under Temple Mill Lane and Ruckholt Road, to terminate at the Lea Bridge Road bridge over the Lea Valley Line;
- as Work No. 6D, a railway connection between this line and the existing Traction Maintenance Depot at Stratford;
  as Works Nos. 6B, 6C and 6E(1), railways for construction purposes only between the North London Line and the High Meed Sidings at Stratford, and between the Lea Valley Line and the Old Yard Sidings;
- as Work No. 6G, a diversion of the Channelsea River at its confluence with the River Lea; and
- as Works Nos. 6H and 6J, access roads between the International Freight Terminal and the Channelsea site north of Stratford Station and between the Freight Terminal and the Traction Maintenance Depot.

IN the London Boroughs of NEWHAM, REDBRIDGE, BARKING and DAGENHAM and HAVERING -

Work No. 7 continues the main railway from Stratford to the Rippleside Sidings of the Tilbury Line in Barking, passing eastwards in two tunnels beneath Angel Lane, Woodgrange Park Cemetry, the North Circular Road and the River Roding including ventilation shafts off Woodgrange Road and Barrington Road, continuing south-eastwards in tunnel beneath the London Tilbury and Southend Line ("the LTS") at Barking Station to a point north-west of the bridge carrying Ripple Road over that existing railway, thence passing south-eastwards in the southern half of the Tilbury Line under Ripple Road and Alfred's Way to a point east of the existing bridge carrying Alfred's Way over that railway. The works in this group include -
- as Work No. 7A, deviation of the LTS between Barking Station and a point south east of the LTS junction with the Tilbury Line;
- as Work No. 7A(1), a railway for construction purposes only between Work No. 7A and a point on the LTS east of the footbridge between Salisbury Avenue and Essex Road;
- as Work No. 7B, deviation of the Tilbury Line between Barking Station and the Rippleside Sidings to an alignment within the northern half of the existing railway track; and
- as Work No. 7C, a diversion of Mayes Brook where it passes in culvert under the railways and Alfred's Way.

Work No 8 continues the main railway from the Rippleside Sidings to Wennington, passing along the southern side of those sidings, under Renwick Road and along the southern side of the Ripple Lane Freightliner Terminal, then on viaduct over Works Nos. 8B and 8E, passing south-eastwards under the intended A13 trunk road, over the Beam River, then on viaduct over a new road and Rainham Creek, to a point on the boundary between the London Borough of Havering and the Borough of Thurrock. Works associated with this length of the main railway include -
- as Work No.8A, diversion of the Tilbury Line of the northern side of the Rippleside Sidings to a point west of Dagenham Dock Station;
- as Works Nos. 8B to 8F, railways forming goods lines within the Rippleside Sidings and the Freightliner Terminal, extending eastwards under the main railway to Dagenham Dock Station, goods sidings at Ripple Lane and the Freightliner Terminal and connections between those railways and the existing goods sidings in Ripple Lane Yard and continuing eastwards as Work No. 8E to Thames Avenue;
- as Works Nos 8E and 8G, connections between the Tilbury Line and the main railway between Dagenham Dock Station and a point east of Thames Avenue;
- as Works Nos. 8H to 8L, railways connecting with private sidings west and east of Kent Avenue and west of Thames Avenue;
- as Works Nos 8M to 8R, provision for the realignment or diversion of the following roads to be carried over the intended railway, Renwick Road, Kent Avenue, Thames Avenue, a new road in place of Choats Manor Way and new roads or diversions affecting Choats Road, Hindmans Way and Chequers Lane south of the intended railway;
- as Works Nos 8S and 8T, a new road passing over Rainham Creek and under the intended railway to a junction with Ferry Lane and new access from that road to the Riverside Sewage Treatment Works; and
- as Works Nos. 8U(1) to (12), diversion of the following watercourses where they cross or are alongside Tilbury Line, namely, Mayes Brook Relief Channel, Ship and Shovel Relief Channel, Moggs Farm Sewer, the Gores, Pooles Sewer, Ferry Lane Sewer, Rainham Cross Sewer, Rainham Main Sewer, Wennington Main Sewer, Common Watercourse (Southall Sewer) and Wennington Branch Sewer.

IN the Borough of THURROCK, in the County of ESSEX-

Work No. 9 - Continuation of the main railway in Thurrock, passing south-eastwards on viaduct over Tank Hill Road, the Tilbury Line and Mar Dyke, then over a new road between the A13 and Tank Lane, continuing on the southern side of the Purfleet Bypass, then on viaduct over the London Road, Purfleet, the Tilbury Line, and the northbound Dartford Tunnel road and under a span of the southbound approach to the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge, then over Oliver Close in the West Thurrock Industrial Estate and under Oliver Road to a point adjoining Watson Close and Burnley Road. Works associated with this length of the main railway include -
- as Work No. 9A, remodelling of the junction of Purfleet Bypass with the A13 and the Junction of Tank Lane with Botany Way;
- as Works Nos 9B to 9D, realignment or diversion of Oliver Close, Oliver Road, Burnley Road and Watson Close, including a bridge taking Oliver Road over the railway;
- as Work No. 9E, diversion of the Aveley Sewer passing under the Tilbury Line; and
- as Works Nos 9F(1) and (2), deviation of a siding of the Tilbury Line east of the southbound approach to the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge and a railway between that siding and a point on the western side of Watson Close, north of its junction with Burnley Road.

IN the Borough of THURROCK in the County of ESSEX and in the Boroughs of DARTFORD (parishes of Swanscombe and Greenhithe, Southfleet and Longfield and New Barn) and GRAVESHAM (town of Gravesend) and the District of SEVENOAKS (parish of Horton Kirby and South Darenth) in the County of KENT -

Work No.10 - Continuation of the main railway from West Thurrock to Ebbsfleet and Singlewell, passing into tunnel at a point west of Burnley Road and Watson Close, then under the River Thames, with shafts at Burnley Road and the West Thurrock Power Station in Thurrock and Bell Wharf and Swanscombe Marsh in Dartford, continuing south-eastwards to a portal near the junction of Green Manor Way with Lower Road on Swanscombe Marsh, in tunnel under the North Kent Railway and on viaduct over the River Ebbsfleet, then in tunnel under the A2 west of the bridge carrying Hall Road over that road, then in tunnel beneath Hall Road and its slip road to the A2, in tunnel again under Work No.11A, then on viaduct over the Wrotham Road to a point east of that road. The works in this group include-
- as Work No.10A a railway (partly for construction purposes and partly as a permanent infrastructure and maintenance depot) from the seaward end of Swanscombe Jetty to a junction with Work No. 10B off the main railway near Galley Hill Road;
- as Works Nos. 10B and 10C, railways between the main railway near Galley Hill Road and the North Kent Railway east of Springhead Road;
- as Works Nos. 10D and 10E, loop railways on each side of the main railway between the tunnel under the North Kent Railway and the viaduct over the River Ebbsfleet; and
- as Work No. 10F, a railway extending from Work No. 10B into Church Path Pit and as Work No. 10F(1), a connection between the North Kent Railway and the existing mineral railway sidings south of Northfleet Station;

The associated roadworks include -
- as Works Nos. 10G to 10N, improvement of Manor Way (West) and a new road between that road and the central access road of the Northfleet Industrial Estate, a diversion of Lower Road to pass south of the Swanscombe Sewage Disposal Works between Manor Way (West) and its junction with Stonebridge Road, diversions of Green Manor Way and Manor Way (East) at their junction with Lower Road and realignment of Galley Hill Road and Springhead Road, including bridges over the new railways;
- as Works Nos. 10P and 10Q, diversion of Downs Road southwards from the Hog Lane subway over the new railways and of the road from Northfleet Green at its junction with Downs Road;
- as Work No 10R, a road for construction purposes, including a temporary bridge over the A2 where it crosses the course of the former Gravesend West Branch Railway;
- as Works Nos. 10S(1) and (2) and 10T(1), (3), (4), (5), (7) and (8), roads for access to the intended international and domestic passenger station at Ebbsfleet, comprising a road from the access road between the Northfleet Cement Works and Springhead Road south of the Blue Lake, passing southwards over the river Ebbsfleet to a point near the Northfleet West Grid (electricity) Substation, then a road passing along the line of Southfleet Road to a point near the A2 connecting with a road passing under the A2 with roundabouts at each end, and link roads between those roundabouts and the eastbound and westbound carriageways of the A2, and a junction with Park Corner Road on the southern side of the A2; and
- as Works Nos.10R(1) and (2), diversion of Swanscombe Main Drain south of the Swanscombe Sewage Disposal Works and a drainage pumping main between a point west of Northfleet Station, along Stonebridge Road and Grove Road and the Creek to discharge to the Thames east of Robin's Creek.

Work No 11 makes provision for connection of the main railway with the London/Chatham Railway (for the passage of trains to and from Waterloo) by the construction, from a junction with that railway at Pinden Road, Longfield, of a railway passing north-eastwards on the course of the former Gravesend West Branch Railway, to connect with Works Nos. 11A and 11B which pass east wards to junctions with the main railway on the eastern side of Downs Road, Gravesend; the associated works include, as Works Nos 11C, 11D, 11E and 11F, realignment of Whitehill Road, Hook Green Road, Dale Road and New Barn Road, including bridges to carry those roads over the railway.

IN the Borough of GRAVESHAM (parishes of Cobham and Shorne) and in the City of ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY (town of Rochester and parish of Cuxton) in the County of KENT

Work No 12 continues the main railway from Singlewell to Strood eastwards and south-eastwards beside the A2 and the M2: this group of works includes -
- as Works Nos 12A and 12B, loop lines some 2.5kms long on each side of the main railway between Wrotham Road and Scotland Lane;
- as Works Nos.12D to 12H and 12L, diversion or realignment of Henhurst Road, Scotland Lane, Watling Street, (B395), Brewers Road and the access from the A2 to Knights Place, including bridges over the main railway;
- as Work No.12C, diversion of Church Road to connect it with Henhurst Road; and
- as Works Nos.12J and 12K, provision of an access road from Brewers Road to Park Pale and new access over the A2 and under the main railway to the Rochester and Cobham Park Golf Course.

IN the City of ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY (town of Rochester and parish of Cuxton), the Borough of TONBRIDGE AND MALLING (parishes of Wouldham, Aylesford and Burham) and the Borough of MAIDSTONE (parishes of Boxley and Detling) in the County of KENT -

Work No.13 - *Continuation of the main railway from Strood to Detling* passing on the western side of the M2 over the River Medway on a new bridge upstream from the existing motorway bridge and up the Nashenden Valley, passing in tunnel under Blue Bell Hill and the North Downs to Boxley, there continuing south-eastwards on the north side of the M20: the works in this section include -
- as Work No.13A, alteration of slip roads at Junction 2 of the M2 and the A228 (Rochester Road) taking the railway over the slip roads and under the A228;
- as Works Nos 13B, 13C and 13E, diversion of Burham Road, Stony Lane and the MR401 in the Nashenden Valley;
- *as Work No 13D, as access road for construction purposes west of the* M2 between Borstal Farm access and Stony Lane;
- as Works Nos: 13F, 13J and 13K, realignment of the Pilgrims Way, Sittingbourne Road and Hockers Lane, including bridges over the railway; and
- as Works Nos 13G and 13H, diversion of Boarley Lane under the railway and diversion of Boxley Road over the railway in tunnel.

IN the Borough of MAIDSTONE (parishes of Detling, Thurnham, Hollingbourne, Broomfield, Harrietsham, Lenham and Boughton Malherbe) in the County of KENT -

Work No 14 continues the main railway from Detling to Lenham Heath along the northern side of the M20, including short lengths of tunnel beneath Eyhorne Street and Headcorn Road and a bridge over the Maidstone/Ashford Railway. These works include -
- *as Works Nos 14A, 14B, 14C, 14F and 14J, diversion under the railway* of Thurnham Lane, Water Lane, Chrismill Lane, the A20 (Ashford Road) at Holm Mill and a farm access road at Harrietsham;
- as Works Nos. 14E, 14H, 14K, 14L, 14M, 14P, 14Q and 14S, *realignment* or diversion of Hospital Road, Fairbourne Lane, Runham Lane, Sandway Road, Old Ham Lane, Boughton Road, Lenham Heath Road at Sandway and Bowley Lane, including bridges over the railway;
- as Works Nos: 14D and 14N, realignment of Eyhorne Street and Headcorn Road over the railway in tunnel;
- as Works Nos.14G and 14R, diversion of Greenway Court Road at its junction with A20 at Holm Mill and of Lenham Heath Road at its junction with Bowley Lane;
- as Work No.14T, an access road for construction purposes from the M20 to the intended works between Bowley Lane and Hubbard's Farm access; and
- as Works Nos 14U and 14V, an access road in place of Hubbard's Farm access including a bridge over the railway, and an access road to premises north-west and south-east of that access.

IN the Borough of MAIDSTONE (parish of Lenham) and in the Borough of ASHFORD (town of Ashford, parishes of Charing, Hothfield, Westwell and Sevington) in the County of KENT-

Work No. 15 continues the main railway from Lenham Heath to Ashford Barracks including a short tunnel under Leacon Lane near its junction with the A20 (Maidstone Road) and a bridge over the M20 at Tutt Hill: this section includes -
- as Works Nos.15A and 15B, two loop lines some 2.5 kms long on each side of the main railway between Hook Street and Newlands Road;
- as Works Nos.15C, 15F and 15G, realignment of Egerton Road, Newlands Road and Pluckley Road, including bridges over the railway;
- as Works Nos.15D and 15E, realignment or diversion of Vicarage Lane and Hurst Lane at their junctions with Egerton Road and Newlands Road;
- as Works Nos.15H and 15J, realignment or diversion of Leacon Lane under the railway west of Leacon Alders and over the railway in tunnel east of Leacon Alders;
- as Works Nos.15K and 15L, diversion over the railway of the A20 (Maidstone Road) between its junction with Leacon Lane and Leda Cottages and a road for access to premises adjoining the A20 north-west of Leda Cottages; and
- as Works Nos. 15M, 15N and 15P, realignment or diversion of Westwell Lane, Station Road (Westwell) and the A20 at Yonsea, including bridges over the railway;

Work No 16 continues the main railway through Ashford on the northern side of Ashford Station, then south-eastwards to Sevington. The works in this section of the railway include-
- as Works No.16A and 16B, two loop railways some 4.5 kms long passing through Ashford Station south of the main railway; and
- as Work No.16C, a railway between the Maidstone/Ashford railway west of Ashford Station and the Ashford/Canterbury Railway east of that station together with , as Works Nos.16D and 16E, railways to form sidings on the eastern side of Ashford Station.

On the western side of Ashford Station Works Nos 16,16a and 16B pass in tunnel under Chart Road and Godinton Road, and the main railway continues in tunnel under Work No.16A and the Maidstone/Ashford Railway, provision being made-
- as Works Nos.16F, 16G and 16J for the realignment of Chart Road, Godinton Road and Carlton Road over the railway, and the realignment of Bridge Road;
- as Work No.16H, for a new road between Chart Road near its junction with Godinton Road and Godinton Road north-west of its junction with James Street, passing over the railways in tunnel and over the Maidstone/Ashford Railway;
- as Works Nos.16K, 16L and 16M, for an access road and cycle track in place of Gasworks Lane, an alteration of Leacon Road at the southern end of that road and a new cycle track passing south-westwards over the railways from a junction with footpath AU37;
- as Work No.16N, for the diversion of Beaver Road, including alteration of the Beaver Road Bridge over the railways.

On the eastern side of Ashford Station the main railway would pass over the Ashford/Canterbury Railway and over Works Nos. 16A, 16C, 16D and 16E and then continue south-eastwards on the northern side of the Ashford/Folkestone Railway: here provision is made for the closure of the Aylesford Place Level Crossing and the substitution of a cycle track (Work No.16P) passing over the railways between Alsops Road and Crowbridge Road. The works also include -
- *as Works Nos.16Q and 16R, diversion of Boys Hall Road and* Canterbury Road and the realignment of Crowbridge Road to a new bridge taking Boys Hall Road over the railways; and
- *as Work No 16S, diversion of the Aylesford Stream on the northern side* of the Ashford/Folkestone Railway.

IN the Borough of ASHFORD (parishes of Sevington, Mersham, Smeeth and Aldington) and in the District of SHEPWAY (parishes of Sellindge, Stanford, Saltwood and Postling) in the County of KENT -

Work No.17 - Continuation of the main railway from Sevington to Saltwood, with a tunnel beneath the access to Sandling Park at Saltwood and tunnels on both the intended railway and the Ashford/Folkestone Railway ("the two railways") beneath Church Road, Mersham: in this section provision is made -
- as Works Nos.17A,17H,17L,17P and 17Q, for realignment or diversion of Bad Munstereifel Road, Station Road (Smeeth), Harringe Lane and the B2068 link road and the A20 (Ashford Road) at Sandling, including bridges over the two railways;
- as Works Nos 17B, 17C and 17C(1), for diversion of Highfield Lane and Church Road, Sevington, including the construction of a new bridge carrying Highfield Lane over the two railways and the provision of access to premises adjoining that road;
- as Works Nos: 17D, 17K and 17M, for realignment or diversion of Blind Lane and Church Lane and the A20 (Ashford Road) at Sellindge to take those roads under the two railways;
- as Works Nos.17E, 17F and 17G, for diversion of Church Road, Mersham, to take it over the two railways in tunnel and a road for access to premises adjoining the existing road;
- as Works Nos.17J(1), (2) and (3), for diversion of the East Stour River or its tributaries west of Church Lane, Sellindge, at a point east of Grove Bridge and at Westenhanger; and
- as Work No. 17N, for a new road between Stone Street, Stanford and Junction 11 of the M20.

IN the District of SHEPWAY (parishes of Saltwood and Newington and town of Folkestone), in the County of KENT-

Works Nos.18A and 18B extend the main railway from Saltwood to the Channel Tunnel Terminal at Folkestone, Work No.18A passing on the northern side of the Ashford/Folkestone Railway and Dollands Moor Freight Yard and, by a new bridge, over the M20 and A20 at Newington, and Work No.18B passing over the Saltwood tunnel on the Ashford/Folkestone Railway, then continuing on the southern side of that railway and the Dollands Moor Freight Yard, and over the M20 and the A20 on the existing bridge to the terminal;

Works Nos.18C and 18D provide connections between the main railway and the Dollands Moor Freight Yard and Works Nos.18E, 18F and 18G provide for diversion of the Ashford/ Folkestone Railway, with connections from that railway, as diverted, to the Eurotunnel Railway and to Work No. 18B; for the purposes of these works provision is made -
- as Works Nos.18H and 18J, for the realignment of Sandling Road and the B2065 (Hythe Road) including new bridges over the railways; and
- as Work No 18K, for the construction of a new road between the B2065 as realigned and the exit slip road from the Channel Tunnel Terminal at a point west of the M20.

IN the London Borough of HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM -

Works Nos.19 and 19A - Railway sidings on the West London Line between North Pole Junction and Kensington Olympia, from a point west of the connection of Westway with the West Cross Route to the junction of the West Cross Route with Holland Park Avenue.

IN the Borough of GRAVESHAM (parishes of Shorne and Higham) and in the Districts of DOVER (parish of Sandwich) and THANET (parish of Minster) in the County of KENT -

Works Nos. 20A and 20B - New sidings at Hoo Junction of the Gravesend and Higham Railway on the eastern side of Queens Farm Road Level Crossing on that railway.

Work No.21 - New sidings at the Richborough Power Station at Stonelees, Minster.

2. Power for the nominated undertaker to carry our subsidiary works, *to lay out or improve means of access* in locations shown on the deposited plans; to undertake diversion of overhead electric lines crossing the intended route in Barking, Havering, Thurrock, Dartford (parishes of Swanscombe and Greenhithe and Southfleet), Gravesham (town of Gravesend and parish of Shorne), Maidstone (parish of Boxley), Ashford (parish of Aldington) and Shepway (parish of Sellindge; to carry out landscaping and other works to mitigate adverse effects of the authorised works or for the benefit of protection of land; to carry out road improvements in Euston Road and York Way and their side roads in the London Borough of Camden, the underpinning or *strengthening of buildings* within 50 metres of an underground railway or 35 metres of any other work, including power to survey buildings and to enter on adjoining property; discharge of water into watercourses or public sewers or drains; powers to survey lands, to carry out archaeological investigation and protect flora or fauna, including powers to leave apparatus on such land and powers of entry; temporary interference with the Regent's Canal, the River Lee, the River Thames and the River Medway in connection with specified scheduled works, including powers to moor barges or other vessels and temporarily to close such waterways to navigation subject to restrictions; and powers to remove or lop trees.

3. Provision to authorise interference with highways, including power for the nominated undertaker to stop up or divert specified parts of roads bridleways and footpaths on realignment or diversion of such highways specified in paragraph 1 above and parts of other byways, bridleways and footpaths in the areas mentioned in that paragraph as shown on the deposited plans and, in addition, to stop up parts of Midland Road, Pancras Road, Cheney Road and Camley Street in the London Borough of Camden, Chequers Lane in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Manor Way and Ferry Lane in the London Borough of Havering and Aylesford Place, in the town of Ashford; closing of the level crossings at Chequers Lane, Manor Way and Ferry Lane mentioned above, with provision for the substitution of footbridges at each of those level crossings, and the closure of Aylesford Place level crossing; further powers for the temporary stopping up, alteration or diversion of highways and other interference with highways for the purposes of constructing the authorised works; powers to place and maintain apparatus in highways and application of provisions of Part III of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 relating to major highway works; the period for maintenance of highways constructed or altered; liability for maintenance and application of Sections 116 and 117 of the Transport Act 1968; and the use of subsoil in the highway.

4. *Disapplication or modification of statutory or other controls,* including obligations or restrictions in relation to consecrated land, the London Overground Wires etc, Act 1933, Parts III, IV and V of the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939 and provisions of sections 45, 48 and 50 of that Act, sections 16, 18 and 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, section 15 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1970 and sections 5, 6, 7 and 8(2) to (5) of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1986, sections 141, 167 and 169(1) of the Highways Act 1980, sections 28(5) and 29(3) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Part I of the Building Act 1984, section 5 of the Food And Environment Protection Act 1985, article 3 of the Greater London (Restriction of Goods Vehicles) Traffic Order 1985, tree preservation orders ad similar prohibitions in conservation areas, section 106(8) of the Water Industry Act 1991, and section 85 of the Water Resources Act 1991 and the application, with or without modification, of provisions of the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 and the Railways Clauses Act 1863.

5. Powers for the compulsory acquisition of lands by the Secretary of State within the limits of deviation for the scheduled works or within the limits of land to be acquired or used shown on the deposited plans in the areas referred to in paragraph 1 above and in the parish of Bean in the district of Dartford, in the parish of Swanley in the district of Sevenoaks, in the parishes of Leeds and Ulcombe in the borough of Maidstone, and in the parish of Chart in the borough of Ashford; further powers for the acquisition of lands so shown for specified purposes; application subject to modification of Part I of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 and the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declaration) Act 1981; powers for acquisition of subsoil only in specified lands, being in some cases land lying more than 2 metres below ground surface and in other cases land lying more than 9 metres below ground surface, acquisition of land or rights in existing tunnels in the London boroughs of Camden and Islington and in the town of Gravesend; acquisition of part only of certain properties, extinguishment of private rights of way and the disregard of improvements or interests made or created with a view to compensation; provision for extension of the period prescribed for the compulsory acquisition of land, including provision to enable an owner or lessee to require his interest to be acquired; powers for the Secretary of State to acquire land compulsorily under the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 outside the limits of deviation or the limits of land to be acquired or used for certain specified purposes; and the temporary possession and use of land by the nominated undertaker of certain lands for specified purposes. The lands which may be acquired or used include parts of St Pancras Gardens (area 228 sq m) and Camley Street Nature Park (area 8,193 sq m) in the London borough of Camden; part of the Lea Valley Regional Park (area 655 sq m) in the London borough of Hackney; playing fields at Barrington Road (area 1,460 sq m) in the London borough of Newham; part of the Whitehill Road recreation ground (area 12,343 sq m) in the parish of Longfield and New Barn, borough of Dartford; and parts of the Sackville Crescent Park (area 1,034 sq m), the Stour Centre playing field (area 9,122 sq m) and St Mary's Youth Club playing field (area 7,366 sq m) in Ashford, Kent.

6. Deemed *grant of planning permission for development authorised* by Part I of the Intended Act which is begun within 10 years from its passing or such longer period as may be specified in an order made by the Secretary of State subject to restriction on development consisting of car parking at St Pancras or a station and car parking at Ebbsfleet, and the reservation of specified matters for determination by the planning authority; the making of orders by the Secretary of State specifying local planning authorities qualifying for extended powers in relation to development so authorised; planning conditions requiring approval of specified matters by non-qualifying authorities or approval of those and other specified matters by qualifying authorities; disapplication of provisions of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 in relation to specified buildings and structures which may be altered or demolished and disapplication of provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the National Heritage Act 1983 in the case of works or operations carried out in pursuance of the Intended Act.

7. Powers for the operation of the intended rail link; the making of byelaws by the nominated undertaker; modifications of the Rail Regulator's functions in relation to the rail link, exemption of agreements for the design, construction and maintenance of the rail link from the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1976; disapplication of the licensing regime under section 6 of the Railways Act 1993 and of provisions of that Act concerning access agreements and closure of services; extension of provisions relating to railway administration orders under that Act; and disapplication and modification of competition and consumer protection provisions in relation to agreements for the design, construction, financing or maintenance of the rail link.

8. Miscellaneous and general provisions, including provisions relating to the Railways Regulation Acts, increase of penalties under specified provisions of those Acts and extension to the rail link of sections 55 and 56 of the British Transport Commission Act 1949 concerning trespass on railways and throwing of missiles; the making of orders specifying nominated undertakers for particular purposes, residual functions remaining with the Secretary of State, and consequential modification of the Intended Act; determination of appeals under sections 60 and 61 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 and limitations on private proceedings in respect of nuisance under section 82 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990; the removal of burials and monuments; duty of operators of railways assets to co-operate in matters affecting the rail link and any such asset not comprised in it, and the determination of agreements between such operators and the nominated undertaker; modifications of landlord and tenant law in its application to leases granted by the Secretary of State to an operator of the rail link; power for the Secretary of State to give financial assistance for the construction of the rail link and payment for the reservation of rights of use thereof; disapplication of section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989; and service of documents and arbitration.

9. Provision is also made to authorise the Secretary of State to construct specified works ("the A2/M2 improvement works")for the widening of the A2 trunk road at Cobham and the M2 eastward between Junction 1 and Junction 4.

IN the Borough of GRAVESHAM (parishes of Cobham, Higham and Shorne) and the City of ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY (town of Rochester and parish of Cuxton) -

Work No. 31 - Improvement of the A2 between its junction with Halfpence Lane and the M2 at Junction 1.

Work No. 32 - Improvement of the Halfpence Lane and Brewers Road junction with the A2 at Cobham Junction, including new slip roads at that junction;

Work No. 33 - Improvement of the M2 between Junctions 1 and 2 by the realignment of the existing motorway to form the eastbound carriageway and the construction of a new westbound carriageway alongside;

Work No. 34 - Improvement of Junction 1 of the M2 comprising new slip roads connecting the A2 and the Kent County Councils Intended Wainscott Northern Bypass;

Works Nos. 35A and 35B - Diversion of the A2 at Junction 1 and the diversion of an access road to the Colewood Reservoirs;

Work No. 36 - Improvement of Junction 2, including the provision of a dual carriageway underpass connecting roundabouts on each side of the widened motorway, new motorway slip roads to those roundabouts and the diversion of the A228 over the widened motorway, including new cycle tracks in conjunction with that overpass and the cycle track on the existing Medway Bridge;

Work No. 37 - Improvement of the M2 between Junctions 2 and 3 by the realignment of the existing motorway to form the eastbound carriageway and the construction of a new westbound carriageway alongside, passing over the Strood/Maidstone Railway and the River Medway on a new viaduct;

Work No. 38 - Construction of new roads in connection with that river crossing, including a realignment of Wouldham Road, diversion of Nashenden Farm Lane, Stony Lane, and an access track and new roads, for construction purposes, from the existing Medway bridge to Wouldham Road and from Burham Road for access to Nashenden Farm and Borstal Court Farm;

Works Nos. 39, 40 and 41 - Improvement of Junction 3 of the M2 by the realignment of the M2 slip roads and the A229 (Maidstone Road), and associated works in connection with those road improvements, including a new Taddington Wood Roundabout over the M2, the realignment of Hallsfield Road and of Robin Hood Lane, including a new access road to the Medway Crematorium; the remodelling of the Bridgewood Roundabout at the junction of the A229 and Walderslade Woods, improvement of Walderslade Woods to form dual carriageways, including the alteration of slip roads affecting Rochester Road and Walderslade Woods, the remodelling of the Lord Lees Roundabout on the A229, including new slip roads at that road junction and access roads to the Bucknore Park Activity Centre and other premises, and access to land adjoining the Common Road Sports Ground;

IN the Borough of TONBRIDGE AND MALLING (parish of Aylesford) and the Borough of Maidstone (parishes of Boxley and Bredhurst) and in the Borough of GILLINGHAM (town of Gillingham) -

Work No. 42 - Improvement of the M2 between Junctions 3 and 4 by the realignment of the existing motorway to form the eastbound carriageway and the construction of a new westbound carriageway alongside, with provision -
- as Works Nos. 43A and 43B, for realignment of Harp Farm Road under the M2 and diversion of Yelsted Lane in connection therewith;
- as Works Nos 43C and 43E, for realignment of Lidsing Road and Forge Lane over the M2;
- as Work No. 43D, for realignment of an existing track between Blind Lane and Forge Lane north of the M2;
- as Work No. 44, for realignment of the western motorway slip roads at Junction 4; and
  as Work No. 45, for realignment of footpath KH 32 over the M2;

Work No. 46 provides for a cycle track between Maidstone Road and Rochester Road east of the Bridgewood Roundabout.

10. Provision to authorise the stopping up by the Secretary of State of specified highways, including part of Old Watling Street (B395) in the parish of Cobham and part of Victoria Close in the parish of Aylesford other roads, bridleways and footpaths on realignment or diversion of highways in connection with the works specified in paragraph 9 above and other such highways in the areas mentioned in that paragraph, as shown on the deposited plans: temporary interference with highways for the construction or maintenance of works; interference with private access to premises subject to the provision of new access where reasonably required; provision to determine or declare the status of roads as constructed, together with ancillary operations and works; the application of specified provisions of the Highways Act 1980 and the regulation of traffic on roads to be constructed; power for the Secretary of State to acquire lands or easements for the purposes of the A2/M2 improvement works in the areas referred to in paragraph 9 above, including additional specified lands in those areas for specified purposes and the application of the compulsory Purchase Act 1965 and the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declaration) Act 1981; assessment of compensation in respect of blight arising before the passing of the Intended Act and further provision to authorise the Secretary of State to acquire land by agreement where blight arises from the combined effects of the rail link and the A2/M2 improvement works. The lands which may be acquired or used include part of the Common Road Sports Ground (area 3,524 sq m) in the parish of Aylesford, borough of Tonbridge and Malling.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Plans and Sections, with a Book of Reference to those Plans, relating to the purposes of the Bill have been deposited for public inspection at the offices referred to in Part I of the the scheduled list below.

The relevant Environmental Statements and Non-Technical Summaries of those Statements have also been deposited for public inspection and for sale at reasonable prices at each of the offices mentioned in Part I of the scheduled list marked thus * and at the offices of the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents.

As from 28th November copies of the Bill will be available for inspection and for sale at a reasonable price at each of those offices mentioned in Part I of the scheduled list marked thus *, at the offices of the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents and for inspection at the offices of Messrs. Anderson Strathern, WS, 48 Castle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3LX and of Messrs. L'Estrange & Brett, 7-9 Chichester Street, Belfast, BT1 4JG. Copies of the Bill will also be on sale at Her Majesty's Stationery Offices at 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB, at 71 Lothian Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AZ and at 16 Arthur Street, Belfast, BT1 4GD.

Copies of the Bill, Plans and Sections, Book of Reference and Environmental Statements and Non-Technical Summaries will also be available for public inspection at the libraries referred to in Part II of the scheduled list.

The Bill will be introduced as a public Bill. In the House of Commons, if an Order made when the Bill is read is read a Second time in that House and committed so provides, objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it, in the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, in accordance with the provisions of such Order. In the House of Lords, objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it in the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, and the latest date for depositing such a Petition against the Bill may be the subject of an Order made by that House, or if no Order is made, will be the tenth day after that on which the Bill receives its First reading in that House. In the latter case, if this date is a Sunday, Christmas Day or a Bank Holiday, or a day on which the House does not sit, the final date for depositing may be postponed. Information about the deposit of such a Petition may be obtained from the Private Bill Office, House of Commons, or the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords, or the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents.

DATED 19th November 1994

M P THOMAS
Department of Transport
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 3EB
Legal Adviser

SHERWOOD & CO
35 Great Peter Street
Westminster
London SW1P 3LR
Parliamentary Agents

SCHEDULED LIST

PART I

As affecting Greater London -
- Chief Executive, London Borough of Camden, Town Hall, Euston Road, London NW1 2RU;
- Chief Executive, London Borough of Islington, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD;
- Chief Executive, London Borough of Hackney, Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA;
- Managing Director, Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Town Hall, King Street, London W6 9JU;
- Chief Executive, London Borough of Waltham Forest, Town Hall, Forest Road, London E17 4JF;
- Director of Corporate Services, London Borough of Newham, Corporate Services Department, Town Hall, East Ham, London E6 2RP;
- Director of Land Management, London Borough of Redbridge, Town Hall, 128-142 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1DD;
- Chief Executive, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Civic Centre, Dagenham, Essex RM10 7DR;
- Chief Executive, London Borough of Havering, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3DS;

As affecting Essex -
- Chief Executive and Clerk, Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1LX;
- Chief Executive, Thurrock Borough Council, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6LS;

As affecting Kent -
- Joint Secretary, Kent County Council, Room 2.40, Council Secretariat, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ;

In the Borough of Dartford -
- Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Services), Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent DA1 1DR;
  Clerk to the Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council; Swanscombe Centre, Craylands Lane, Swanscombe, Kent DA10 0LP;
  Clerk to the Southfleet Parish Council, 54 Pelham Road South, Gravesend, Kent DA11 8QR;
  Clerk to the Longfield and New Barn Parish Council, The Briars, Manor Drive, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8AN;
  Clerk to the Bean Parish Council, Freshfield, 4 Orchard Close, New Barn, Longfield, Kent DA3 7JP;

In the District of Sevenoaks -
- Chief Executive, Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HG;
  Town Clerk, Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St Mary's Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 7BU;
  Clerk to the Horton Kirby and South Darenth Parish Council, 44 Churchill Road, Horton Kirby, Dartford, Kent DA4 9DP;

In the Borough Gravesham -
- Secretary and Solicitor, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Centre, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU;
  Clerk to the Shorne Parish Council, 70 Colyer Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent DA11 8AY;
  Clerk to the Higham Parish Council, 24 Chilton Drive, Higham, Rochester, Kent ME3 7BW;
  Clerk to the Cobham Parish Council, Highmead, Sole Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 3AY;

In the City of Rochester upon Medway -
- City Secretary, The City Council of Rochester upon Medway, Civic Centre, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 4AW;
  Clerk to the Cuxton Parish Council, 295 The Tideway, Rochester, Kent ME1 3PS;

In the Borough of Gillingham -
- *Chief Executive and Town Clerk, Gillingham Borough Council, Municipal* Buildings, Gillingham, Kent ME7 5LA;

In the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling -
- Borough Solicitor, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, The Air Station, West Malling, Kent ME19 6LZ;
  Clerk to the Wouldham Parish Council, 99 High Street, Wouldham, Rochester, Kent ME1 3XP;
  Clerk to the Burham Parish Council, 90 Poplar Grove, Maidstone, Kent ME16 0AL;
  Clerk to the Aylesford Parish Council, Council Offices, 23 Forstal Road, Aylesford, Kent ME20 8AU;

In the Borough of Maidstone -
- Chief Executive, Maidstone Borough Council, London House, 5-11 London Road, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8HR;
  Clerk to the Boxley Parish Council, Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent ME5 9RU;
  Clerk to the Bredhurst Parish Council, "Rayner House", 2 Primrose Avenue, Wigmore, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0TD;
  Clerk to the Detling Parish Council, 35 Keefe Close, Blue Bell, Hill Village, Chatham, Kent ME5 9AG;
  Clerk to the Thurnham Parish Council, 17 Hazlitt Drive, Maidstone, Kent ME17 0EG;
  Clerk to the Leeds Parish Council, 3 Brogden Crescent, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent ME17 1RA;
  Clerk to the Hollingbourne Parish Council, Willows, 78 Eyhorne Street, *Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent ME17 1TS;*
  Clerk to the Broomfield Parish Council, Homeleads, Whitehall Drive, Kingswood, Nr Maidstone, Kent ME17 3PG;
  Clerk to the Harrietsham Parish Council, 25 Garden of England Park, Harrietsham, Maidstone, Kent ME17 1LD;
  Clerk to Ulcombe Parish Council, Little Jubilee Farm, Ulcombe,Maidstone, Kent ME17 1HA;
  Clerk to the Lenham Parish Council, 18 Headcorn Road, Platts Heath, Lenham, Kent ME17 2NH;
  Clerk to the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council, Southernden, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9LL;

In the Borough of Ashford -
- Borough Secretary and Solicitor, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL;
  Clerk to the Little Chart Parish Council, Forstal Gate, Little Chart, Forstal, Ashford, Kent TN27 0PU;
  Clerk to the Charing Parish Council, "Cordwainers", Market Place, Charing, Ashford, Kent TN27 0LR;
  Clerk to the Westwell Parish Council, Shottenden Manor, Westwell, Ashford, Kent TN25 4JR;
  Clerk to the Hothfield Parish Council, 5 West Street, Hothfield, Ashford, Kent TN26 1ET;
  Clerk to the Mersham and Sevington Parish Council, 8 Long Row, *Flood Street, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 7HD;*
  Clerk to the Smeeth Parish Council, 4 Prospect Way, Brabourne Lees, Ashford, Kent TN25 6RL;
  Clerk to the Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council, 27 Conkesion Walk, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 6FQ;

In the Borough of Shepway -
- Chief Executive, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY;
  Clerk to Sellindge Parish Council, Court Lodge, Sellindge, Ashford, Kent TN25 6AG;
  Clerk to the Stanford Parish Council, Tolsford View, Stone Street, Stanford North, Ashford, Kent TN25 6DN;
  Clerk to the Saltwood Parish Council, 8 Deedes Close, Hythe, Kent CT21 5HZ;
  Clerk to the Postling Parish Council, Macsaneas, The Row, Elham, *Canterbury, Kent CT4 6UN;*
  Clerk to the Newington Parish Council, The Barley Mow, Newington, Folkestone, Kent CT18 8AU;

In the District of Thanet -
- The General Services Manager, Thanet District Council, Thanet Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent CT9 1XZ;
  Clerk to the Minster Parish Council, Dormeva House, Abbey Grove, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4HB;

In the District of Dover -
- Director of Law, Property and Administration, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent CT16 3PE;
  Clerk to the Sandwich Town Council, Town Clerk's Office, 1 Potter Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9DR.

PART II

St Pancras Library, Town Hall Extension, Argyle Street, London WC1H 8EQ;
Swiss Cottage Library, 88 Avenue Road, London NW3 3HA;
Central Library (Islington), 2 Fieldway Crescent, London N5 1PF;
Central Library (Hackney), Mare Street, London E8 1HG;
Hammersmith Library, Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7AT;
Stratford Reference Library, Water Lane, London E15 4NJ;
Central Library (Waltham Forest), High Street, Leyton, London E10 7HU;
Central Library (Redbridge), Clements Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1EA;
Central Library, Axe Street, Barking, Essex IG11 7NB;
Central Lending Library, St Edward's Way, Romford, Essex RM1 3AR;
Grays Library, Orsett Road, Grays, Essex RM17 5DF;
Dartford Library, Central Park, Dartford, Kent DA1 1EU;
Gravesend Central Library, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1BE;
Sevenoaks Library, Buckhurst Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1LQ;
Rochester Library, Northgate, Rochester, Kent ME1 1LS;
Gillingham Library, High Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 1BG;
Tonbridge Library, Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1TG;
Maidstone Library, St Faiths Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1LH;
Centre of Kentish Studies, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ;
Local Government Information Services, Kent Arts & Libraries HQ, Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2LH;
Ashford Library, Church Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 1QX;
Folkestone Library, 2 Grace Hill, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1HD;
Ramsgate Library, Guildford Lawn, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9AY; and
Dover Library, Maison Dieu House, Biggin Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1DW.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
0865 259 783				
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Ecoland Expt Bal	109.80	113.80	-2.08	2.58
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AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
0203 553 231				
General Acc	508.90	539.30	-16.60	2.91
General Inc	447.80	475.60	-14.60	2.91
UK Growth Acc	342.10	364.00†	-12.00	3.09
UK Growth Inc	234.20	249.20	-8.10	3.00
Higher Inc Acc	641.60	682.00†	-23.00	4.10
Higher Inc Inc	370.80	394.50†	-13.70	4.10
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	181.90	192.20	+3.40	8.05
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	78.44	83.42	+0.85	8.05
Nth America	245.90	261.70†	-9.50	...
Far East	348.40	370.70†	-14.90	0.05
Europe	261.20	277.80	-3.40	0.82
Brit Excell	67.34	71.64†	-2.45	3.28
Brit Fxdevis Acc	96.72	102.80	-2.30	5.80
Brit Fxdevis Inc	70.97	75.50	-1.65	5.80
Global Oppor	80.05	85.17†	-2.16	6.38
Balanced Acc	51.90	55.22†	-1.37	3.12
Balanced Inc	50.86	54.13†	-1.36	3.12
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	128.00	135.90	+1.10	5.89
High Inc Equity	153.40	164.10†	-5.40	4.80
Worldwide Bond	257.40	273.20†	+4.10	3.84
Capital Growth				
American Growth	369.90	388.40	-8.80	.79
Asian Pacific	327.00	347.90	-18.90	...
Assets & Earnings	247.80	263.80†	-6.80	2.70
Comdty & Energy	108.90	115.90	-6.30	.04
Euro Capital Inc	128.40	137.30	-1.60	.21
(Accum Units)	137.10	146.60	-1.80	.70
General	212.50	226.10	-6.90	2.41
Japan	124.60	132.58	-3.30	...
Mastertrust	136.60	145.10	-2.90	1.81
UK Growth Dist	113.70	121.60†	-1.30	2.40
US Emerging Cos	127.80	136.70	-3.10	...
Income & Growth	361.30	384.40†	-11.80	3.25
Ethical	65.83	70.01	-1.40	3.01
International	113.80	121.10	-2.40	.65
Dividend & Growth	58.04	61.74	-2.00	4.55
Global Gwth & Inc	66.05	70.40	+0.02	2.87
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.47	£16.95	+12.00	...
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	41.12	42.69†	-1.14	0.72
Cash	50.40	50.40	+0.03	4.47
European	105.00	110.70	-1.50	...
Exempt	955.80	£10.27†	-9.70	1.80
Extra Income #	47.78	50.26	-1.04	6.64
Far East Emg Eco	113.80	120.80	-4.30	0.52
Fixed Interest #	21.98	23.67	-0.01	8.56
Fund Inv Tst	172.00	181.00†	-4.10	0.82
Japan	183.10	191.80	-5.00	...
Latin American	70.77	74.29	-2.05	0.65
Pacific	71.28	75.07	-2.86	0.36
Property Share	62.71	66.20	-0.89	2.05
UK Emerging Cos	62.06	65.14	-1.19	1.90
UK Growth	42.24	44.89†	-1.28	2.61
Abst World Pos #	70.42	71.70†	-2.06	2.28
Ethical	59.05	61.99	-1.10	2.83
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	49.55	49.55	+0.16	7.58
For Accum Fds see United Friendly				
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 549 3232				
British Growth	65.96	70.17†	-1.78	2.72
British Income	76.43	81.30†	-2.02	3.44
Select Portfolio	82.67	87.95†	-2.60	...
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
0452 305 958				
Amity Income	72.46	76.88	-1.25	0.03
Income Builder Inc	65.13	69.29	-2.27	0.03
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	218.20	233.20	-6.60	3.34
Capital	383.20	409.60	-10.00	2.02
Balanced	647.70	692.30	-17.70	2.87
Accumulator	£11.80	£12.61†	-35.08	3.22
Income Trusts				
American Income	44.92	48.81	-0.80	3.71
High Income	373.80	399.30	-11.30	3.87
Equity Income	212.50	227.10	-6.40	3.87
High Yield	226.90	242.50†	-7.60	3.58
Govt Securities	32.41	34.21†	+0.17	6.20
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	132.30	141.40	-4.00	0.50
European Growth	33.45	35.70	-0.76	0.01
International	154.70	165.30	-4.50	0.20
Japan	204.90	218.40	-8.70	0.01
Pacific	395.10	422.30	-22.50	0.61
Secs of America	389.10	414.60†	-12.20	0.58
Wwide Asset Val	46.01	49.18	-1.89	0.24
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	489.90	523.70†	-20.30	2.44
Conv & Gilt	42.10	45.00	-0.91	5.16
Smaller Cos	158.40	169.30	-1.80	1.31
2nd Smaller Cos	158.10	169.40	-1.10	1.51
Recovery	127.70	136.50†	-2.70	1.92
Met Min & Cdty	143.40	153.20†	-6.00	0.78
Oseas Earnings	329.80	352.30	-10.10	1.91
Technology	152.40	162.90†	-7.80	0.01
UK Special Sits	421.50	450.50	-11.20	1.92
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0293 526 911				
Concord Ord Pens	97.02	100.80†	...	1.45
Foundtn Pers Pens	61.50	63.89†	...	4.00
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	66.89	71.15	-2.49	1.85
International	60.91	64.80	-2.10	...
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
031 222 4242				
America	265.70	288.70	-11.40	...
Bond	109.30	115.00†	-2.30	7.24
Brit Smlr Cos	95.50	101.60	-0.80	1.59
Conv & Gilt #	63.58	67.98	-0.83	5.54
Energy	409.10	442.10	-18.30	0.11
Europe	214.50	229.20	-4.10	0.48
Euro Smlr Cos	98.15	104.70†	-3.80	0.89
Income Gwth	327.10	348.10	-8.70	4.53
Japan	320.10	340.60†	-8.30	...
Pacific	104.20	110.80	-3.50	0.72
UK Smlr Cos	50.32	53.53	-0.11	1.16
Japan Fd	718.90	749.30	-24.30	...
Mngd Fd	165.20	175.56†	-3.60	3.00
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
071 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	267.10	281.20	-11.10	1.31
Capital Gwth	107.90	113.50	-1.30	2.37
Wwide Opps	178.80	188.30	-3.06	0.43
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Brit Inv Fd Inc	323.80	337.10†	-11.30	3.08
European Bd Inc	89.04	92.17	+0.52	7.78
Exempt	69.12	73.72†	-2.52	4.46
Financial	68.33	73.06†	-2.79	2.89
500	422.80	453.30	-7.20	2.51
General	255.60	273.30	-8.30	2.73
Property	245.60	262.60†	-6.20	6.17
Trustee	172.60	184.60	-4.70	2.61
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.50	100.50†	...	4.56
Extra Income	109.60	117.20†	-3.20	4.32
Gilt & Fxd Int	53.72	57.59†	+0.60	8.95
Income	495.60	530.10	-16.40	4.23
Income Builder	59.53	63.33	-1.58	5.01
Intl Income	80.96	84.85	-1.56	3.63
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	109.80	117.10	-3.80	2.81
Leisure	116.50	124.60	-1.40	1.35
Recovery	390.20	417.50	-11.90	2.76
Smlr Cos Inc	41.19	44.17	-0.35	2.10
Special Sits	264.00	282.40	-6.80	1.66
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	117.60	124.70†	-4.20	0.74
Aust Acc	242.40	257.90	+0.80	2.15
Aust Inc	150.70	160.30	+0.30	2.15
Euro Gwth Inc	145.40	154.20	-1.80	0.63
(Accum Units)	155.60	165.00	-1.90	0.63
Japan & Gen Inc	179.30	189.70	-6.10	...
(Accum Units)	181.30	191.90	-6.10	...
Japan Spec Sits	82.47	87.37	-2.75	...
Unv Tech Inc	76.62	81.84	-2.35	0.19
Worldwide	163.20	173.30	-5.10	0.73
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
081 658 9002				
American Growth	88.41	93.87	-2.98	...
Amer Smlr Cos	119.60	128.20	-5.80	...
Convertibles	54.10	57.86	-0.58	5.50
Eastern	269.60	291.52	-19.30	0.10
Equity Income	84.51	89.90†	-1.82	4.90
European Growth	281.80	299.00	-3.09	1.00
Europe	209.20	222.90	-2.70	0.60
German Growth	68.92	73.11	-1.47	0.10
Global Bond	61.89	65.09	+0.82	6.40
Global Growth	120.40	128.50	-3.80	...
Japan Growth	199.53	212.70	-6.00	...
Japan Source	173.20	184.50	-5.70	...
Korea Trust	84.65	94.73	-4.97	...
Portfolio	126.50	135.40	-3.10	1.80
(Accum Units)	230.70	247.00	-5.80	1.80
UK Growth	82.64	85.79	-1.95	1.40
UK Smaller Cos	84.47	90.34†	-1.92	1.50
Select Managed	71.31	76.37	-1.63	1.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
071 250 3300				
Ind Equity Port Inc	74.30	79.04	-2.60	...
Special Oppor Inc	53.63	57.27	-1.40	...
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD				
071 236 5441				
Special Sits	162.10	173.40	-5.70	1.52
Dividend	79.31	84.82	-4.20	4.02
Intl Gth & Inc	203.60	217.80	-6.40	3.32
UK & Gen	41.98	44.90	-1.59	2.01
Fund of Funds	62.14	66.46	-1.38	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
041 223 8020				
Balanced Growth	99.89	104.65†	-3.32	1.78
(Accum Units)	111.17	117.64	-3.73	1.78
Smaller Cos	96.93	102.57†	-3.78	1.39
Higher Yield #	42.56	45.03†	-1.01	4.91
American Gwth Inc	67.14	71.05	-2.21	...
European Growth	130.66	138.26	-2.18	0.05
(Accum Units)	133.23	140.98	-2.23	0.05
Global Bond Inc #	25.63	27.07†	+0.42	7.21
Mngd Pfolio Inc	40.19	42.51	-1.10	1.41
(Accum Units)	40.76	43.12	-1.11	1.41
Int Spec Sits	111.39	117.87	-4.41	0.44
Pacific Bsn	126.13	133.48	-5.83	...
Formerly IAS				
UK General #	71.39	75.54	-2.49	3.54
(Accum Units) #	72.14	76.34	-2.52	3.54
Japan	82.89	87.61	-1.63	...
Gilt & Fxd Int #	93.05	94.94†	+1.09	7.35
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 483 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.79	65.54	+0.37	6.50
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
061 837 5060				
Equity	145.40	154.70	-2.49	1.71
UK Growth	155.90	165.90	-5.49	2.44
UK Income	123.90	131.88†	-3.50	4.59
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	177.10	187.70	-5.70	2.11
Can Income Dist	101.60	107.10†	-2.60	4.87
(Accum Units)	294.90	323.20	-8.00	4.67
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.31	41.67	+0.27	6.53
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5982				
American & Gen	141.80	150.90	-3.60	
European Inc	74.33	78.78	-1.31	0.40
Smaller Cos	76.71	81.61	-0.43	1.93
Income	376.10	401.40	-11.20	2.39
Income & Growth	389.90	408.50	-10.50	4.07
(Accum Units)	539.40	573.90	-14.80	4.07
Japan & Gen	72.38	76.78	-2.80	...
Wider Portfolio	£96.38	£102.28†	-£2.85	2.02
(Accum Units)	£116.96	£121.60	-£3.79	2.02
Special Sits	91.49	97.34	-2.57	2.36
High Yield	£12.27	£12.65†	-2.00	4.59

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS				
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 561				
American Gwth Tst	33.86	36.22†	-1.32	...
Cash Income	50.81	50.91†	+0.01	4.61
European Gwth	38.24	40.75	-0.48	0.16
Income & Gwth Inc	25.55	27.32	-0.81	4.88
Intnl Gwth	29.19	31.21	-0.85	0.38
Japan Gwth	27.28	29.15	-0.94	...
Managed Tst Inc	45.65	48.82	-1.01	2.89
Oseas Opps Inc	139.80	149.50	-8.58	...
Property Shares	34.19	36.58	-2.87	0.86
Smaller Cos	29.27	31.30†	-0.34	1.86
UK Growth Tst	24.23	25.91	-1.01	3.15
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Gen Capital Inc	68.12	72.86	-2.51	3.36
Cap Inc UK Inc	62.56	66.93†	-2.36	2.83
Exempt (X)	29.84	30.70	...	1.76
Formerly Brown Shipley				
Financial	134.20	143.50	-2.60	0.56
Foundation	86.96	93.00	-1.91	3.55
Europe	48.93	52.19†	-0.61	...
High Income	70.70	75.61	-1.41	6.36
Mngd Ptflo Inc	101.70	108.70	...	1.07
Mngd Ptflo Acc	194.40	207.90	...	1.87
Monthly Income	77.48	82.86	-1.69	4.57
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	79.79	85.18	-1.46	2.31
American Portfolio	84.54	90.08	-1.77	1.22
European Portfolio	91.97	97.93	-1.21	0.66
Japanese Portfolio	65.08	69.12	-2.62	...
Pacific Portfolio	139.43	148.86	-4.86	0.58
UK Inc & Growth	71.87	77.18	-1.75	3.56
Utility & Bond	52.99	53.52	-0.82	6.85
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	647.20	654.10	...	4.83
Fxd Int Sec	148.40	148.75	...	9.88
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	81.77	86.71	-2.84	3.04
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	639.05	644.81	...	4.73
Accum	£27.11	£27.41		
Inc	118.95	119.14	...	9.74
(Accum Units)	181.34	181.85	...	
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 337 7667				
Intl Growth	121.68	132.64	-3.11	...
UK Income	105.79	115.88	-8.51	5.168
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 407 5966				
Bedrock Intl	70.80	75.63†	-0.24	1.81
Back Bio-Tech	24.41	27.23	+0.13	...
Accm Global Tst	148.60	158.63	-2.14	1.09
City Fin Assets	69.50	73.94†	+0.86	1.07
City Fin America	78.14	82.25	-1.96	...
City Fin Intl	73.83	77.72†	-2.23	0.94
City Fin Japan	168.32	177.18	-3.07	...
Friars Hse Cap	284.53	286.21	+4.11	1.92
Friars Hse Inc	191.33	203.54†	+1.25	4.07
Buckley Wrld Grth	130.18	138.48	-1.04	0.09
Fairmont Cap Gth	133.32	141.83†	-4.29	...
-do- Inc & Gth				
Fairmount Intl	151.39	159.36†	-4.69	...
City Fin Pcific Inc	52.95	58.33	-1.86	4.37
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 711 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	58.21	59.64	-1.09	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	50.89	54.53	-2.32	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	34.64	37.05	-1.65	0.35
Dragon Growth	67.82	72.53	-3.41	0.32
Equity High Inc	77.48	82.43	-2.83	4.11
(Accum Units)	103.44	110.04	-3.50	4.11
European Gwth	47.87	50.93	-1.15	0.65
Evergreen	27.26	29.15	-1.30	...
General Equity	78.34	83.12	-2.72	2.65
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.02	25.25	+0.24	8.25
Japan Growth	50.66	54.18	-2.45	...
Pedigree Gwth	47.42	50.45	-1.35	2.80
Ped Sm Cos Inc	29.54	31.43†	-0.18	1.10
(Accum Units)	30.70	32.66	-0.19	1.10
Retirement Inc #	24.43	26.13	-0.77	5.73
Special Sits	36.07	38.58	-0.49	1.99
UK & Overseas	45.04	48.98	-1.50	1.30
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0634 888 000				
Capital	62.77	67.13	-2.84	2.37
Income	56.76	60.70	-1.59	4.35
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 8818				
PRECISE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	149.01	158.52	-5.12	5.66
Fixed & Convertible	38.43	40.89	-0.02	7.69
Monthly Inc Plus	46.58	49.55	+0.12	9.04
Preference Share	44.78	47.64	+0.02	7.76
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	116.25	123.67	-5.17	7.54
Managed Fund	64.91	68.10	-1.67	3.10
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	37.77	40.18	-0.36	1.69
(Accum Units)	43.21	45.97	-0.41	1.69
UK & General	73.23	77.90	-2.83	2.85
(Accum Units)	91.66	97.51	-3.53	2.85
UK Growth	131.19	139.56	-4.95	2.44
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	182.29	193.93	+0.14	0.28
Far Eastern Gwth	129.31	137.56	-7.89	...
Global Bond	74.80	79.51	+1.30	6.37
Japan Growth	121.03	128.76	-4.25	...
North Amer Gwth	150.81	160.44	-3.68	...
Oriental Growth	73.66	78.38	-4.61	...
Worldwide Growth	61.02	64.91	-1.47	0.66
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.99	91.99	+0.07	5.32
Homeowners Fund	73.48	78.17	-2.24	1.93
Quilter Fund	121.24	128.98	-4.47	3.04
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
0438 744 840				
Growth Inc	54.84	58.34	-1.79	2.10
(Accum Units)	58.64	62.38	-1.92	2.19
High Income	31.76	33.78†	-0.72	4.70
Japan	35.52	37.78	-1.23	...
Smaller Cos Inc	29.29	31.14†	-0.44	2.50
Smaller Cos	31.06	32.97	-0.47	2.50
North American	30.38	32.31	-1.26	0.40
European	35.43	37.69	-0.39	0.50
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
071 487 5965				
Consistent UT	29.61	31.77	-0.57	3.40
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 585 358				
Growth	132.50	141.08†	-1.50	2.15
Income	67.39	71.70	-2.21	5.18
European	59.30	63.08†	-0.95	1.03
Recovery	146.60	156.00	-3.80	2.88
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
071 283 8494				
Equity Dist	795.20	808.00†	...	4.01
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
0277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	67.21	71.50	-1.41	1.37
Income #	222.30	236.40†	-7.90	4.90
(Accum Units) #	547.40	582.30	-17.20	4.90
Smaller Cos	145.60	155.10	-0.60	0.87
(Accum Units)	177.80	189.18	-1.00	0.87
Inv Portfolio	74.91	79.15	-2.41	1.51
High Inc Port #	64.59	68.71	-2.11	5.00
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
071 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£14.82	£15.18†	-21.00	...
Japan Small Cos	£12.12	£12.36†	-46.40	...
UK Small Cos	£17.04	£17.80	-16.90	...
US Small Cos	£14.99	£15.47†	-43.70	...
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
071 377 8819				
Disc Inc	193.60	205.80†	-2.80	2.88
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 315 2500				
European Gwth	263.00	278.20	...	1.00
New Asia	210.50	224.50	-8.00	0.15
Japan Growth	120.30	128.90	-3.70	...
Jap Smllr Co	501.50	533.30	-22.80	...
Nth Amer	234.50	248.80	-7.80	0.95
Stated Asia Pac Mt	116.00	122.60	-4.80	0.37
UK Inc & Gth	199.70	213.30†	-7.90	3.12
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
0242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	132.10	140.50	-4.90	1.91
UK High Inc Inc	138.30	148.20†	-4.80	4.86
(Accum Units)	178.30	189.70†	-6.20	4.86
UK Pref & F I Inc	57.49	61.02	+0.83	5.14
Eurinvest Opps	78.70	83.72	-1.79	1.12
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	112.60	119.80†	-1.90	1.48
Convertibles #	20.49	21.45	-0.24	6.53
Equity Income #	119.60	127.10	-3.50	4.17
Eurofund	42.84	45.45	-0.83	0.44
Financial	43.61	46.34	-1.10	1.62
Growth & Inc #	220.30	234.10	-8.70	3.29
High Dist #	144.30	153.39†	-4.90	4.89
International	380.70	404.50	-10.30	0.12
Intl Cap Inc	91.07	97.22†	-1.95	2.83
Latin American	45.19	48.01	-1.87	...
Pacific	85.00	90.41	-3.90	...
Preference Share	21.44	22.73†	-0.12	7.24
Tokyo	221.70	235.20	-8.40	...
UK Smaller Cos	209.70	222.80	-1.50	1.23
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
071 242 0242				
Ebor Trust	202.65	216.51	-3.20	0.86
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	193.70	206.10	-6.40	0.84
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0296 431 480				
European	75.61	79.59	-0.74	1.71
Ethical Tst	42.65	44.89	-1.16	1.29
Far Eastern	295.40	318.95	-11.35	1.77
High Income #	123.49	129.99†	-4.16	4.95
Intl Growth	115.85	121.95	-2.88	1.41
North American	102.48	107.87	-3.10	1.30
Pelican	109.49	115.16	-3.77	3.29
Smaller Cos	67.94	71.52	-1.17	2.38
Special Sits	84.59	89.04	-1.20	2.50
Tst of Inv Tsts	179.27	188.70	-3.44	1.46
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	367.06	395.27†	-3.08	1.43
Smaller Cos Acc	344.81	359.18†	-5.39	1.43
Recovery	50.58	52.68†	-0.72	1.06
Recovery Acc	50.92	52.84†	-0.72	1.06
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0392 412 144				
Balanced	104.71	111.39†	+0.94	8.24
Capital Growth	78.81	84.38†	-1.65	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	43.61	46.52	-1.10	0.62
High Income #	43.26	46.30†	-0.85	9.94
Managed	54.91	59.68	-1.77	...
Zero Preference	35.39	37.55	+0.19	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	71.59	76.59†	-1.70	2.42
Family Income Tst	45.82	45.82†	-0.85	5.83
Family Trust	80.54	85.87†	-1.31	1.14
United Charities	246.00	261.60†	-6.50	2.73
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.80
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.58	28.68†	+0.17	7.93
Intl Bond	27.05	28.07†	+0.21	6.29
Income Funds				
High Income	24.60	25.89†	-0.11	5.30
Income Plus	105.40	113.30	-2.90	4.44
Amer Eq Inc	43.05	45.63†	-1.53	1.81
European Income	40.57	43.14	-0.89	2.67
Far East Inc	60.35	64.21†	-0.81	2.29
Global Convertible	22.11	23.59	-0.42	3.67
UK Div Gth	22.84	24.40	-0.68	1.13
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	61.51	65.62†	-4.84	...
American	219.50	232.90†	-8.20	...
Amer Spec Sits	105.80	112.90	-5.50	...
Japan Smaller Cos	39.52	42.21	-1.85	...
European	156.90	168.00	-2.80	...

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Opps	61.05	64.92	-0.73	...
Global Pfr	23.56	25.07	-0.68	1.30
UK Growth	84.03	89.35	-3.37	...
Growth & Inc	133.70	142.20	-4.00	2.63
Intl PEP	34.77	36.97	-1.06	...
Japan Spec Sits	90.84	96.72	-4.18	...
Japan	194.20	206.50	-6.90	...
Managed Intl	258.80	275.60	-8.00	...
Moneybuilder	50.55	53.75	-1.50	...
Recovery	45.89	48.80	-0.87	...
South E Asia	142.80	152.40	-10.10	...
Special Sits	492.20	523.40	-17.60	...
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	107.23	107.23	+0.08	4.80
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 814 2780				
Balanced #	131.48	134.40	-3.90	1.58
Inc Ptflo #	81.87	82.50†	-2.24	3.97
Cap Ptflo	136.80	139.70	-4.60	0.93
General Opps	116.80	118.90†	-3.00	3.49
Growth Inc	29.00	29.66†	-1.00	1.79
Private Portfolio	384.80	393.00	-10.00	1.50
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	108.00	114.10	-1.60	0.64
Emrg Asian	165.80	176.40†	-5.80	...
High Income	20.96	22.29†	-0.27	10.69
Oseas Income	88.45	94.40	-0.85	3.03
UK Growth	102.80	109.50	-2.80	1.70
UK Income	98.37	104.90†	-2.80	4.39
US Smaller Cos	276.80	296.00†	-6.20	...
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
071 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	45.94	48.51	-1.65	3.50
-do- Inv Tst Inc	73.02	76.78	-1.33	4.30
Intl Growth	69.44	73.02†	-2.26	1.26
Investment Trust	87.15	91.64	-1.99	...
UK Smaller Cos	77.15	81.12	-1.25	1.36
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 374 4100				
American Growth	50.57	53.96	-2.28	
(Accum Units)	50.57	53.96	-2.26	
Amer Smllr Cos	434.20	464.30	-21.70	
(Accum Units)	443.80	474.38	-22.20	
Capital Tst	299.80	318.60	-1.80	1.57
(Accum Units)	427.90	455.10	-2.68	1.57
Conv Smllr Cos	55.81	60.20	-0.74	0.60
(Accum Units)	58.69	63.38	-0.78	0.60
Convertible	126.60	134.62	-1.70	5.78
(Accum Units)	249.80	265.50	-3.46	5.78
Emerging Markets	78.14	83.48	-3.19	
(Accum Units)	78.22	83.58	-3.18	
European	112.30	119.40	-1.30	0.14
(Accum Units)	117.80	125.90	-1.58	0.14
Extra Income	312.80	332.70	-8.40	4.83
(Accum Units)	463.00	492.40	-12.40	4.83
Financial	111.50	120.29†	-3.10	0.24
(Accum Units)	117.40	126.50†	-3.30	0.24
Gilt Trust	61.84	62.95†	+0.76	6.35
(Accum Units)	65.25	67.91†	+1.06	6.35
Health Fund Inc	118.00	126.00†	-3.40	
(Accum Units)	118.00	126.00†	-3.40	
Income & Growth	177.80	189.10†	-5.20	3.30
(Accum Units)	268.40	285.50†	-7.90	3.30
Intl Growth	338.70	362.40†	-10.70	...
(Accum Units)	376.10	402.48†	-11.90	
Japan & Gen	177.20	190.30	-7.60	
(Accum Units)	179.00	192.10	-7.70	
Managed Port Inc	99.75	105.00	-2.10	1.46
(Accum Units)	105.80	111.30	-2.20	1.46
Monthly Income	155.90	165.80†	-3.10	4.02
Quarterly Income	50.06	53.24†	-0.84	4.74
(Accum Units)	53.25	56.64†	-0.90	4.74
Recovery	326.30	348.90	-8.30	0.08
(Accum Units)	384.10	410.70	-9.80	0.08
UK Growth	49.91	53.22	-1.31	2.76
(Accum Units)	51.82	55.85	-1.35	2.76
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing: 0705 891330 Enqs: 0705 891340				
FP Equity Dist	354.10	376.80†	-14.30	2.78
-do- Accum	747.80	795.50†	-30.00	2.78
FP Euro Gth Dist	135.70	144.30	-1.90	0.22
-do- Accum	141.50	150.50	-1.90	0.22
FP Fixed Int Dist	128.60	137.00	+1.60	6.97
-do- Accum	234.50	248.00	+2.90	6.97
FP Intl Gth Dist	89.20	94.89	-2.69	0.57
-do- Accum	93.06	98.99	-2.81	0.57
FP Nth Amer Dist	175.00	185.30	-4.00	1.22
-do- Accum	191.90	203.20	-4.40	1.22
FP Pac Basin Dist	304.30	323.70	-13.00	0.17
-do- Accum	310.50	330.30	-13.30	0.17
Stewardship Dist	311.70	331.50†	-6.20	2.08
-do- Accum	381.10	405.40†	-7.50	2.08
Stwdship Inc Dist	68.70	73.08†	-1.03	3.77
-do- Accum	88.57	94.22†	-1.33	3.77
N Am Stship Dist	93.17	99.11	-2.19	0.73
-do- Accum	98.61	104.90	-2.40	0.73
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	103.80	110.40	-3.00	0.90
Oppo Cap Gth Acc	106.70	113.50	-2.70	0.0
Cap Gth Inc Acc	100.10	106.40	-2.70	1.74
Cap Gth Inc Acc	101.70	108.10	-2.70	1.74
Opn Cp Gth Ic Acc	102.40	108.90	-2.10	1.88
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	103.90	110.50	-2.20	1.88
MM Unit Trusts				
America	41.06	43.68†	-1.18	1.35
Australia	317.70	340.80	-1.80	0.0
Conscience	66.74	71.22	-2.74	0.84
European	192.70	204.90	-2.20	0.81
(Accum Units)	208.40	221.60	-2.40	0.81
Extra Income	68.12	72.70†	-1.39	6.10
Gilt & FI	55.81	59.13	+0.52	6.45
Gold	51.28	55.13	-2.85	0.0
Income	51.09	54.49	-1.79	4.38
(Accum Units)	162.50	173.30	-5.60	4.38
Intnl	31.14	33.23†	-1.16	0.71
(Accum Units)	45.16	48.19	-1.69	0.71
Jap Smaller Cos	373.30	398.10	-12.10	0.0
Sing & Malaysian	256.50	275.00	-12.10	0.0
Smaller Cos	28.64	30.79	-0.37	0.85
Special Sits	33.57	35.52†	-1.13	1.95
Sterling Deposit	100.80	100.80†	+0.10	4.88
Tokyo	87.32	93.14	-2.94	0.0
UK Equity	161.30	172.00	-6.00	2.78
(Accum Units)	308.90	329.40	-11.40	2.78
US Smaller Cos	104.30	111.50	-4.60	0.0
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	220.40	233.10†	-6.20	2.60
Cash	49.38	50.12†	+0.03	4.93
Growth Portfolio	74.91	79.41	-2.41	1.02
Income Portfolio	59.90	63.34†	-1.79	4.69
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	171.50	183.60	-1.90	
European	525.90	562.50	-12.70	0.48
Far East & Gen	270.08	288.80	-17.40	
Germany	111.90	118.60	-1.60	
Income Inc	143.20	153.20	-3.20	4.61
(Accum Units)	151.60	162.20	-3.40	4.61
International	320.50	342.80	-12.40	0.21
Intl Income	78.11	80.81	-1.30	4.27
Japan & General	397.40	422.40	-9.10	
Korean Securities	74.79	79.99	-3.41	
Smllr Cos Dvr Inc	45.38	48.54	-1.80	4.80
UK Capital (inc)	160.40	171.60	-4.70	1.02
UK Spec Sits	81.28	86.93	-0.25	0.86
US & General	124.30	132.50	-5.30	
Wwide Spec Sits	151.30	161.80	-4.50	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	44.34	47.38	-1.57	2.41
Cash Trust	135.42	135.42†	+0.09	4.54
Practical Inv Inc #	109.82	117.58	-1.88	3.48
(Accum Units) #	249.92	267.29	-4.29	3.48
UK Index	137.93	140.72	-4.74	3.25
UK Smaller Cos	117.31	125.47†	-0.87	1.08
Income Funds				
Preference Share	23.90	25.56†	+0.07	9.59
High Income	31.58	33.78†	-0.72	5.24
UK Equity Income	129.20	138.18	-3.67	3.41
Global Bond	27.34	28.35	+0.41	5.40
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	55.62	59.49	-2.35	
Global Inc & Gth	126.89	135.86†	-2.38	2.06
Gold & Intl Res	113.44	121.33	-5.57	
Global Utilities	127.14	136.19	-5.35	1.14
Overseas Funds				
American	130.32	139.04	-4.84	1.07
European	94.77	100.50	-1.48	1.02
Euro Sel Opps	135.74	144.39	-2.48	
Amer Emerging	89.58	95.81	-5.78	
Hong Kong	132.47	141.75	-11.64	1.54
Japan	241.97	258.11	-7.58	
Pacific Growth	217.85	232.14	-13.20	1.39
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	202.49	202.49†	-5.93	2.09
Long Term Bal	221.41	221.41†	-4.51	2.85
Med Term Bal	187.91	187.91†	-2.04	3.72
UK Equity	224.83	224.83†	-7.11	2.63
UK Emerging Cos	136.56	136.56	-1.09	2.23
American	212.42	212.42	-5.18	1.53
Japan	125.73	125.73	-4.11	
European	245.69	245.69	-3.23	0.96
Index Linked Gilt	163.51	163.51	+0.32	3.95
Fixed Interest	152.54	152.54†	+1.31	6.92
Amer Emerges	235.20	235.20	-10.63	
Pacific	237.04	237.04	-10.93	0.67
Emerging Mkts	161.82	161.82	-5.50	0.59
Index Strat Japan	152.89	152.89	-1.36	0.27
-do- Pacific Rim	177.99	177.99	-16.39	1.13
-do- Cont Europe	139.54	139.54	-3.80	1.86
Index Strat USA	121.77	121.77	-3.64	2.49
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	95.53	101.63	-2.08	
Med Term Bal	89.25	94.95		
Long Term Bal	99.57	105.93	-0.60	
UK Equity	103.84	110.47	-3.49	
UK Emerging Cos	64.00	68.08	-0.54	
American	98.49	104.78	-2.56	
Japan	80.37	84.22	-2.70	
European	102.37	108.91	-1.43	
Fixed Interest	76.83	81.74	+0.70	
Index Linked Gilt	72.49	77.12	+0.15	
Deposit	79.30	84.36	+0.15	
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Intl Gth	119.10	125.37	-3.79	
Berkeley Income	108.96	114.72	-1.79	2.22
BWH Intl	134.01	141.06	-3.38	0.60
Bedell Gth Port Inc	58.36	61.59	-1.18	1.25
-do- Inc Port Inc	54.36	57.37†	-0.80	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	51.38	54.14	-1.41	0.50
Shaw Utilities	54.96	58.00†	-3.20	2.45
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 071 493 9990				
& Intl Inc	528.50	562.23	-2.52	1.31
(Accum Units)	579.71	616.71	-2.77	1.31
European Inc	140.12	149.08	-0.55	0.92
Amelgam Inc	144.87	152.65	+0.43	
N America Inc	310.61	330.44	-9.83	
Far East Inc	347.31	369.48	-16.82	
(Accum Units)	359.71	382.67	-17.42	
UK Divid Inc	170.90	181.81	-1.76	1.30
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7868				
UK Equity Inc	84.18	88.56	-3.45	4.73
UK Small Cos	44.99	48.12	-0.11	0.92
British Growth	50.15	53.00	-2.11	2.46
American Gwth	156.14	167.00	-4.42	
Japan Gwth	76.18	81.48	-3.26	
Greater China	193.81	206.32	-8.21	
Pacific Strategy	165.13	176.61	-6.68	
European Gwth	81.69	87.36†	-1.43	0.12
Intl Growth	140.19	149.93	-4.58	
US Index (E)	12.56	13.24	-0.36	4.00
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	71.49	75.71	-2.40	2.23
Monthly Income	37.05	38.54†	-0.94	10.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033				
Grd UK Index (X)	9.53	10.04	-0.90	3.60
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 488 1212				
Small Cos	91.08	96.89	+2.49	1.21
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
071 538 9669				
Cash	137.10	137.10†	+0.10	3.20
European	484.90	498.60	-5.20	0.11
Gilt & Fixed	124.80	132.50	+1.30	5.30
Growth Equity	310.50	331.70†	-12.10	1.98
Income Trust	122.30	130.60	-4.90	3.03
International	173.90	185.70	-5.90	
Japan Trust	129.10	137.90	-4.20	
Nth American	239.70	256.00†	-10.30	0.17
Pacific	544.20	581.40†	-25.10	
Guardian	459.30	490.60	-17.50	1.98
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
071 522 2129				
EMU Trust	99.54	103.31	+1.08	7.33
Global High Inc	98.69	102.43	+1.48	8.61
Prem Fixed Int	100.51	104.34	+1.13	8.84

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Eqty & Bond Inc	97.98	104.17†	-1.21	5.17
European Growth	98.58	104.82	-1.46	
Intl PEP Trust	57.49	61.12	-1.26	
High Income	115.76	123.08†	-1.95	4.21
-do- Accum	158.35	168.36	-1.45	4.21
Recovery	356.40	378.90†	-0.80	1.65
(Accum Units)	409.00	434.90	...	1.65
St Vinc High Inc	121.93	129.75	-2.29	7.96
Tmp Bal Emei Co	236.90	251.80†	-1.33	1.49
Tmp Bu Sm Co Inc	337.50	343.40	-17.90	2.15
Glob Pnw Tst	90.27	95.98†	-1.64	1.50
(Accum Units)	91.12	96.88	-1.64	1.50
Inc Share Tst	89.59	95.26	-1.04	7.96
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Model Ptflio	191.50	203.20	-6.80	2.56
Smaller Cos	31.79	33.78	-0.73	0.85
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT				
Enquiries: 0277 263 280 Dealing: 0277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	279.63	298.20	-5.63	1.51
Best of British	59.32	63.05†	-1.89	2.84
UK Smaller Cos	118.95	127.87	-2.11	1.31
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	258.51	275.29†	-10.73	3.38
(Accum Units)	694.14	739.22	-19.43	3.38
High Income #	301.53	322.33†	-7.65	4.18
Extra Income #	263.78	280.53	-5.82	5.56
Pref & Gilt	44.35	47.67†	-1.11	9.26
International				
International	262.57	278.84	-7.15	0.47
Global Bond	51.56	54.83	+0.73	6.08
Family of Funds	78.67	84.11	-2.26	0.17
Global Tech	145.93	156.06†	-3.53	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	179.55	192.01	-10.15	0.12
European	449.79	477.81†	-6.53	0.28
European Income	78.10	83.69	-0.74	2.70
Euro Smll Cos	142.59	152.99†	-2.76	0.04
Eur Sp Sits	67.68	72.00†	-1.07	0.16
(Accum Units)	72.50	77.12	-1.15	0.16
Japan Trust	218.05	232.02	-5.71	
Japan Special Sits	245.62	261.63	-8.73	
Pacific Smlr Cos	267.57	284.64	-12.31	
North American	220.90	234.77	-7.31	0.49
American Smllr	94.79	101.33†	-5.21	
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	50.77	53.81	-2.41	
Eur Sp Sits	58.47	61.97	-0.93	
General Growth	40.41	42.83	-1.27	
Global Tech	57.08	60.50	-1.37	
Income Growth	39.84	42.23	-0.99	
Japan Growth	36.69	38.29	-0.71	
Smaller Cos	21.22	22.49	-0.37	
Special Opps	28.24	29.93	-0.46	
Wwide Sp Sits	47.87	50.74	-1.31	
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
081 686 4355				
British	92.10	98.50†	-3.10	1.95
Capital	163.20	174.50	-5.30	1.52
Dollar	317.30	339.30†	-13.60	
Enterprise Gth	310.50	332.00	-4.50	1.76
European	218.20	233.30	-2.50	
Far East	315.90	337.80	-15.20	0.15
Financial	789.40	822.80	-23.70	1.34
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.85	25.84†	-0.23	7.82
High Yield	97.18	103.90†	-5.09	4.37
Income & Growth	132.50	141.70†	-4.00	3.65
International	243.90	260.80	-7.30	
Japanese General	206.60	220.90	-7.40	
Japan Tech	84.37	90.23	-3.15	
Nat Resources	72.99	78.06	-2.99	
Portfolio	68.63	73.40	-1.82	1.50
Smaller Cos	120.40	128.70†	-1.10	1.28
Special Sits	141.30	151.70	-3.30	1.55
UK Emerging Cos	86.20	92.19	-0.45	0.54
US Smaller Cos	74.35	79.51	-3.00	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers: 0800 181 890 Inv: 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	93.08	99.28†	-2.62	6.32
Capital	545.80	582.50†	-21.60	2.18
Income #	527.10	562.50†	-18.10	4.34
Foocse Fund	50.29	53.19	-1.81	2.71
Trust Index	105.40	112.50	-2.30	2.00
UK Index	131.10	139.90	-4.40	5.11
International Funds				
American Growth	447.60	477.70	-14.90	0.63
American Index	185.10	197.50	-5.10	1.31
European Growth	108.00	114.90	-1.50	
Eurotrack 100	148.80	158.30	-2.00	0.89
Global Bond	20.55	21.70	+0.23	6.95
Japan Growth	282.40	301.10†	-9.90	
Japan Index	80.15	85.54	-1.65	0.09
Japan Smllr Cos	35.31	37.68	-1.46	
International High Growth Funds				
Asian	54.87	58.56	-4.58	0.16
Hong Kong Gwth	97.11	103.60	-9.00	0.97
Spore & Mlysa Gth	74.99	80.02	-4.11	
Tiger Index	201.90	215.50	-11.70	0.23
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.43	29.51	-0.16	1.10

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
General Funds				
Managed	68.54	71.14†	-2.16	2.56
Rupert Cald Fnd	79.20	82.20	-2.71	2.46
UK Growth	55.73	57.84†	-1.80	2.42
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.48	50.48	+0.03	4.39
Cashbox (Acc)	58.63	58.83	+0.03	4.39
UK Extra Inc	81.28	84.35	-1.58	5.46
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.81	26.61	+0.35	7.75
UK Inc & Gwth	37.89	39.32†	-1.20	4.06
UK Income	316.60	328.80	-11.10	3.77
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	45.87	47.61	-1.94	0.29
Amer Smlr Cos	103.10	107.00	-3.40	
(Accum Units)	104.20	108.10	-3.40	
Europe Gth	145.60	150.80	-2.40	
(Accum Units)	150.50	155.80	-2.50	
Euro Smaller Cos	37.22	38.25†	-0.39	
French Growth	75.15	78.07	-0.23	
Accum Units	80.52	83.57	-0.25	
H Kong & China	79.54	82.56	-1.07	1.78
Intl Growth	55.44	57.54†	-1.49	0.64
(Accum Units)	55.89	58.01†	-1.50	0.64
Japan Gth	34.86	36.18	-1.29	
Accum Units	34.86	36.18	-1.29	
Japan Smaller Cos	42.88	44.50	-1.86	
Glob Emg Mkts	110.70	114.90	-2.70	
Accum Units	111.50	115.70	-2.78	
SE Asia	323.90	336.20	-17.60	0.25
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	51.47	53.02†	-0.64	5.69
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
071 581 3020				
American Cap	128.20	136.30	-1.10	
Income	140.67	149.65	-3.69	4.00
UK Growth	51.47	54.75	-1.30	0.98
International	80.00	85.09	-2.72	0.26
Ecology	75.44	80.25†	-1.35	1.34
European	114.18	121.19	-2.05	
Far Eastern	317.30	337.50	-15.80	
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	47.80	50.85	-1.27	7.55
Gilt Yield	113.30	113.60	+0.60	6.94
Global Income	207.50	220.70†	-3.30	4.12
High Yield	130.30	138.60†	-5.30	6.36
(Accum Units)	390.60	415.50†	-15.90	6.36
Smlr Cos Div	50.20	53.40†	-0.57	2.97
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	84.73	90.14	-2.77	
North American	70.20	74.68	-1.59	0.29
European Special	94.09	100.10	...	0.15
European	147.90	156.90	+0.40	0.38
(Accum Units)	193.60	206.00	+0.60	0.38
General	260.30	276.90	-5.30	3.25
Japan	417.70	444.40	-14.60	
Japanese Special	242.60	258.10	-10.70	
Master Accum	226.50	243.10	-7.30	0.57
Pacific	334.70	356.10	-14.20	
(Accum Units)	392.50	417.60	-16.70	
Smaller Cos	106.90	113.70†	-5.40	0.60
UK Equity Growth	38.78	41.26	-0.19	1.64
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS				
071 629 1663				
Global Inc & Gth	59.89	63.70	-1.85	
Inv Trust	65.40	69.57	-1.39	
Cautious Inc/Gth	56.52	60.12	-0.74	0.60
High Inc Acc	52.97	56.35	-1.05	3.60
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 588 2800				
Income	572.70	584.40	-4.10	5.75
Intl & General	411.70	420.10	-1.30	
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
071 407 5966				
Bridge Income	246.97	262.73†	-6.67	5.71
Inc & Growth Inc	54.14	57.50	-1.70	4.57
Smaller Cos	54.21	57.36†	-0.87	1.43
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623				
Growth Trust	233.00	247.90†	-7.40	2.19
High Income	103.40	110.00	-3.50	4.39
International	97.94	104.20	-3.30	0.58
Recovery Trust	60.95	64.84†	-0.93	1.57
European Trust	78.93	83.97	-1.15	1.04
Japanese Trust	43.64	46.43	-1.21	
American Trust	81.31	86.50	-3.82	
Managed	64.89	69.03	-1.89	0.56
Cash	50.98	50.98	-0.03	4.00
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 374 0916				
UK Cap	345.00	352.00	-7.30	2.56
UK Inc/Gth	370.50	376.30	-8.50	3.27
UK Income	258.00	263.40†	-6.50	4.35
UK Smr Cos	230.30	239.00	-1.50	1.92
Euro Gwth	118.30	119.40	-3.80	
N Amer Gwth	73.77	74.52†	-2.14	0.12
Japan Growth	67.58	68.18	-2.07	
Money Mkt	121.24	121.24		2.270
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395				
Equity Dist	446.10	473.50†	-15.80	2.69
(Accum Units)	875.40	931.30†	-31.30	2.69
Equity Income	94.39	100.40	-2.30	4.07
UK Tactical Allocn	52.99	56.27	-1.30	3.16
European	110.20	117.30	-1.50	3.90
Far Eastern	233.30	248.30	-12.70	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fixed Interest	49.64	52.91	-0.55	6.93
Gilt	86.36	91.76	-0.75	7.01
Global Growth	76.11	80.37†	-2.75	0.10
Intl Bond	50.31	53.44	-0.57	4.36
Japanese	76.24	81.11	-3.24	
North American	138.70	147.60	-4.30	0.93
Pacific Growth	114.80	122.10	-8.50	
UK Index	58.79	62.05	-2.08	2.21
UK Recovery	87.17	92.75	-2.19	1.75
UK Smaller Cos	118.03	125.50	-1.30	1.52
UK Index	55.69	58.72	-1.45	1.80
European Index	70.42	74.32	-0.77	1.16
Japan Index	41.73	44.04	-1.04	
Worldwide	81.29	86.48†	-2.24	1.35
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
081 902 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621				
Growth	47.54	50.95	-1.57	2.01
Income	56.92	60.62	-1.81	2.67
Far East	53.59	57.42	-2.53	
North American	84.61	90.49	-4.12	
Global	89.55	95.79	-2.55	0.11
European	62.76	68.50	-1.09	0.64
Japan	110.40	118.10†	-3.40	
Intl Currency Bd	55.87	59.23†	+0.48	4.42
SE Asia	104.10	111.30	-7.70	
UK Gen Gwth	87.52	93.61†	-2.92	1.78
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 0634 834 339 Dealing: 0634 834 313				
Balanced	322.30	342.52†	-11.10	3.92
-do- Acc	733.10	779.90	-25.20	3.92
Cont Euro Gth	60.46	63.85†	-0.71	1.11
-do- Acc	64.61	68.02	-0.52	1.11
Extra Inc	239.40	254.79†	-8.50	4.37
-do- Acc	639.40	680.00	-17.50	4.37
German Gth	119.40	126.70	-2.60	0.17
-do- Acc	125.20	131.60	-2.70	0.17
Growth Port	512.60	545.40	-22.20	0.11
-do- Acc	521.10	554.40	-22.70	0.11
Income	463.00	492.60†	-13.90	3.97
-do- Acc	£12.42	£13.22	-37.00	3.95
Income Port	493.50	525.00†	-17.70	4.12
-do- Acc	518.70	551.90	-17.30	4.12
Japan Growth	105.50	112.30	-3.60	
-do- Acc	105.90	112.70	-3.70	
Master Trust	56.51	59.06	-0.63	1.47
-do- Acc	61.97	65.93	-0.76	1.47
N American Gen	170.70	181.60	-4.50	0.12
-do- Acc	196.50	209.10	-5.20	0.12
N Am Sm Co Rec	126.70	133.00	-5.60	
-do- Acc	131.40	139.80	-5.80	
Pacific Basin	258.50	275.00	-10.30	0.56
-do- Acc	274.10	291.70	-11.00	0.56
Small Cos Rec	353.00	371.60†	-8.20	1.97
-do- Acc	472.10	497.00	-11.30	1.97
UK Growth	81.43	86.53	-1.46	2.57
-do- Acc	97.86	104.10	-1.80	2.57
Worldwide Gth	307.40	327.10	-7.20	0.35
-do- Acc	453.50	482.50	-10.60	0.35
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
0392 282 673				
American	60.92	65.35	-2.09	0.10
General	91.82	97.79†	-2.33	2.40
Income	63.06	67.66	-1.28	5.50
International	61.74	65.24	-2.02	0.40
Japan	59.56	62.83	-1.69	
Tst of Inv Trusts	66.30	71.13†	-1.93	1.60
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 0245 390 390				
Amer & General	367.80	388.30	-15.40	0.76
(Accum Units)	456.60	482.30	-19.10	0.76
Amer Recovery	417.50	441.50†	-21.50	0.56
(Accum Units)	479.10	506.60	-24.80	0.56
Amer Smlr Cos	122.30	129.30	-6.10	
(Accum Units)	125.00	132.10	-6.30	
Australasian	160.20	169.40	-3.70	1.90
(Accum Units)	194.20	205.30	-4.40	1.90
Capital	788.70	834.10	-16.70	2.63
(Accum Units)	896.00	947.60	-19.00	2.63
Charifund	655.00	661.60†	-20.30	5.79
(Accum Units)	£30.26	£30.57	-93.70	5.79
Commodity	389.70	411.10	-12.20	0.47
(Accum Units)	569.90	602.70	-18.00	0.47
Compound Grth	871.90	922.00†	-37.40	3.05
(Accum Units)	913.90	966.40	-39.20	3.05
Dividend	37.50	40.00†	-1.10	4.61
(Accum Units)	158.60	167.70	-5.00	4.61
Equity Income	332.80	351.90	-6.90	5.00
(Accum Units)	423.60	447.90	-8.80	5.00
Euro & General	488.90	517.00	-6.70	1.06
(Accum Units)	617.30	652.80	-8.40	1.06
Euro Divergent	67.10	71.00	-0.50	3.73
(Accum Units)	80.00	84.70	-0.60	3.73
Extra Yield	392.20	414.80	-14.30	4.89
(Accum Units)	£12.17	£12.87	-44.40	4.89
Far Eastern	353.90	374.30	-19.20	0.66
(Accum Units)	468.90	495.80	-25.60	0.66
Fund of Inv Tsts	586.30	620.00†	-14.70	1.94
(Accum Units)	£10.95	£11.58	-27.50	1.94
General	58.50	61.80	-1.90	3.80
(Accum Units)	161.40	170.70	-5.30	3.80
Gilt Income	58.64	58.75†	-0.84	8.10
(Accum Units)	160.80	161.10	+2.30	8.10
Gold	68.30	72.20	-4.30	0.80
(Accum Units)	80.60	85.30	-5.10	0.80
High Income	37.40	39.00	-0.90	4.74
(Accum Units)	107.80	114.20	-3.50	4.74
Intl Growth	74.80	79.10	-2.80	1.08
(Accum Units)	130.30	137.70	-5.00	1.08
International Inc	94.20	99.60†	-2.10	4.64
(Accum Units)	139.80	147.90	-3.10	4.64
Japan & Gen	48.40	51.20†	-2.00	
(Accum Units)	51.90	54.90	-2.20	
Japan Smlr Cos	165.80	175.30†	-8.10	
(Accum Units)	167.00	176.50	-8.20	
Managed Income	26.40	27.70†	-0.60	4.07
Midland	60.10	63.60†	-0.90	3.15
(Accum Units)	200.90	212.70	-3.00	3.15
Pension Ex	879.80	901.80†	-28.60	4.48
Recovery	40.10	42.40	-0.90	2.70
(Accum Units)	85.20	89.90	-1.60	2.70
Second General	68.20	72.10	-2.10	3.52
(Accum Units)	174.00	184.00	-5.50	3.52
Smaller Cos	65.90	69.70	-0.40	3.16
(Accum Units)	129.40	137.00	-0.70	3.16
Sterling Hi Inc	24.03	24.13	+0.33	8.68
Treasury	24.96	25.01†	-0.07	5.08
Trustee	39.30	41.60†	-1.70	4.64
(Accum Units)	158.40	167.70	-6.80	4.64
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0903 204 631				
European Growth	77.25	82.18†	-1.34	0.84
Intl Bond	60.73	63.86†	-1.04	6.32
Intl Equity Growth	67.56	71.86†	-2.09	0.57
N Amer Growth	88.37	94.01	-2.83	0.87
Special Sit: Growth	20.32	21.61	-0.45	1.85
UK Growth	349.40	371.70†	-12.90	2.80
(Accum Units)	455.90	485.00	-16.90	2.80
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	£12.44	£12.67†	-23.20	3.29
Income #	946.60	962.20	-16.00	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 222 4242				
Maldon General	135.10	139.00		4.40
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD				
Dealings: 0438 747 414				
Growth Units	185.40	198.30	-7.80	2.58
Gilt & Fxd Int	166.80	175.80	+2.50	6.78
Intl Growth	201.30	214.10	-5.40	0.24
North American	171.50	182.70	-5.30	0.46
Far East	271.20	290.00	-11.60	0.98
UK Smaller Cos	166.90	178.50	-1.30	2.08
European	77.90	83.16	-1.42	0.18
Japanese Growth	48.78	51.84	-1.35	
High Income	176.30	188.60	-7.60	4.72
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0244 680 065				
M & S Inv Ptflo	143.90	153.00	-3.70	2.14
-do- Accum	163.90	174.30	-4.10	2.14
UK Sel Ptflo	123.30	131.00	-4.30	2.38
-do- Accum	141.70	150.70	-4.90	2.38
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
0204 364 642				
Managed Tst	62.06	66.02	+0.16	4.12
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 479 4546				
Intl Income	68.71	72.94	-1.38	4.66
European	77.28	82.04	-0.86	0.34
Income #	69.94	74.25†	-2.73	5.78
Nth American	57.01	60.52	-2.36	0.69
Far East	167.80	178.10	-7.00	
Japan	56.80	60.30	-1.76	
Emerging Mkts	110.60	118.30	-5.70	
Intl Growth	105.80	112.30†	-3.50	0.38
UK Growth	83.94	89.11†	-0.96	0.83
UK Smlr Co	45.81	47.78†	-0.24	0.61
Asian Opps Fd	39.19	41.91	-2.12	0.13
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
071 407 5966				
Income	387.90	412.65	-14.07	4.33
Global Inc	63.10	67.13	-1.39	3.07
Brit Leaders	318.60	338.94	-11.40	2.64
Intl Leaders	188.40	200.43	-6.42	0.82
PAM Mg Bal Gth	61.85	64.26	-1.41	0.84
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 071 280 2860				
American	190.80	202.50†	-4.90	
(Accum Units)	203.90	216.50†	-5.10	
American Opps	83.95	89.55†	-4.17	
(Accum Units)	85.01	90.68†	-4.21	
British Blue Chip	74.78	79.43†	-2.88	3.04
(Accum Units)	92.22	97.94†	-3.46	3.04
Cash	100.40	100.40		5.04
(Accum Units)	136.68	136.68	+0.10	5.04
Emerging Mkts	118.30	127.20	-5.70	0.11
(Accum Units)	118.40	127.30	-5.70	0.11
European Growth	329.00	352.80	-3.20	0.18
(Accum Units)	357.60	383.20	-3.60	0.18
European Income	80.34	84.91	+0.17	3.38
(Accum Units)	107.00	113.00	+0.20	3.38
General	472.30	503.40	-15.80	2.46
(Accum Units)	920.70	981.50	-30.50	2.46
Global Bond	118.30	124.30	+1.40	5.56
(Accum Units)	142.50	149.80	+1.70	5.56
Gold & General	222.20	238.90	-11.30	0.38
(Accum Units)	228.10	245.30	-11.50	0.38
Govt Securities	89.76	92.55	+0.85	6.14
(Accum Units)	170.50	175.80	+1.70	6.14
Income	143.80	152.70†	-5.10	4.54
(Accum Units)	222.70	236.70†	-7.70	4.54
Inc Portfolio #	93.90	96.92	-1.88	5.26
(Accum Units) #	93.30	96.92	-1.88	5.26
Intl Opps	445.50	474.00	-11.60	0.34
(Accum Units)	594.20	632.30	-15.30	0.34
Japan	184.30	196.10	-7.30	
(Accum Units)	189.90	201.30	-7.50	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
New Europe	173.40	185.00	-2.50	0.76
(Accum Units)	177.30	189.10	-2.60	0.76
Pacific	122.00	130.10	-8.60	0.78
(Accum Units)	130.60	139.30	-9.10	0.78
Recovery	284.40	302.40†	-6.30	0.85
(Accum Units)	362.90	387.10†	-8.00	0.85
UK Smaller Cos	54.77	58.21	-0.77	0.88
(Accum Units)	61.69	65.60	-0.88	0.88
Portfolio	76.48	81.23	-2.23	2.84
(Accum Units)	89.77	95.37	-2.61	2.84
Managed Gth	95.73	100.16	-2.80	1.90
Managed Inc	97.65	101.36	-1.30	4.44
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
0707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	110.91	117.98	-1.89	0.91
Portfolio	64.24	68.34	-2.02	0.07
UK Income Inc	71.94	76.53	-2.64	4.90
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	57.30	61.25	-0.97	2.98
(Accum Units)	60.29	64.48	-1.01	2.98
British Tst	79.08	84.58	-3.20	1.98
(Accum Units)	90.91	97.23	-3.67	1.98
Extra High Inc	64.94	69.45	-0.85	6.71
(Accum Units)	123.80	132.40	-1.60	6.71
FT-SE 100 Acc	50.64	53.72	-1.83	2.56
FT-SE 100 Dist	50.63	53.72	-1.83	2.56
Gilt & Fxd Int	53.43	55.60	+0.39	7.03
(Accum Units)	152.40	158.60	+1.10	7.03
High Yield	208.10	222.60†	-4.60	5.91
(Accum Units)	521.30	557.50†	-11.50	5.91
Income	271.10	289.90	-12.00	3.72
(Accum Units)	589.80	630.80	-26.00	3.72
Money Market UT	49.58	49.58†	-0.04	4.67
(Accum Units)	77.12	77.12†	+0.26	4.67
Monthly Income	80.82	86.44†	-1.61	6.42
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	94.19	100.20	-3.80	1.96
European Growth	101.60	107.70	-4.20	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	82.78	87.84	+0.62	6.32
Income	80.06	85.17	-2.45	3.00
Japan Growth	53.84	57.07	-1.88	
Managed	65.66	69.67	-1.09	2.52
Money Market	86.10	91.36	-0.32	4.40
North American	82.41	87.36	-2.90	0.51
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	85.54	91.00	-3.41	1.94
European Growth	95.57	101.30	-4.00	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	78.86	83.89	+0.60	6.29
Income	78.66	83.68	-2.40	3.07
Japan Growth	53.71	56.94	-1.86	
Managed	62.83	66.84	-1.04	2.49
Money Market	79.60	84.36	+0.29	4.63
North American	75.17	79.68	-2.60	0.61
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	85.57	91.03	-3.43	1.93
European Growth	93.30	98.90	-3.90	
Gilt & Fixed Int	72.42	76.85	+0.53	6.42
Income	77.78	82.74	-2.41	3.09
Japan Growth	54.98	58.28	-1.90	
Managed	65.85	69.84	-1.11	2.48
Money Market	74.32	78.78	+0.26	4.43
North American	83.17	88.16	-2.90	0.47
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
International (US$)	11.96	12.72	-0.53	...
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gwth	307.90	327.40	-16.60	
European Gth Inc	427.00	456.60	-12.80	0.29
(Accum Units)	431.60	461.50	-13.00	0.29
Intl Gwth	189.00	201.50	-5.90	
UK Equity Inc	172.50	184.00	-5.10	3.30
UK Intl Trckr Inc	150.20	160.70†	-5.50	2.79
(Accum Units)	176.30	188.70†	-6.40	2.79
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	184.20	195.50	-5.00	1.58
Japan Tracker	76.45	80.99	-1.93	
Asian Tracker	203.00	219.30	-14.60	0.29
Managed Inc	148.90	159.00	-3.90	1.48
Deposit Inc	99.92	99.92†	+0.05	4.06
Europa	174.10	187.20†	-2.10	0.26
Genesis	147.40	162.10	-0.90	2.25
High Income	21.34	22.66†	-0.39	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
Acumen	80.38	82.45†	-2.09	2.35
Acumen Inc	85.55	87.51†	-1.97	2.35
Acumen Reserve	81.67	82.49†	+0.87	8.15
-do- Inc	71.27	71.98†	+0.76	8.15
American Growth #	153.20	157.70	-6.50	0.06
Cash Income	49.61	49.61†	+0.04	4.66
Equity Income #	90.27	92.64	-3.15	4.77
European	68.64	70.00	-1.02	
Smaller Cos	75.61	79.17†	-0.41	1.17
Diversified	66.04	67.59	-2.03	0.10
Global Bond	42.08	42.55†	+0.44	6.75
UK Growth	87.64	89.97	-2.13	1.80
Pacific Growth	107.20	111.20	-7.70	
Japan Growth	94.66	96.16	-4.14	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Avon Equity	115.30	122.66	-3.63	2.99
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
061 237 5822				
UK Growth	70.27	74.76	-2.33	2.13
UK Income	101.70	108.20†	-2.30	4.05
Gilt & Fixed Int	67.89			
Higher Income	208.40	221.80	-5.00	4.98
Smaller Cos	79.13	84.19	+2.42	2.08
International	91.55	97.40†	-2.42	1.76
NATIONAL PROV INV MGRS LTD				
071 623 4200				
Americas Dist	97.89	104.69	-3.59	0.68
European Dist	104.70	112.00†	-1.70	0.40
Far East Dist	180.50	193.10	-9.50	
Global Care Dist	65.29	69.83	-1.43	1.25
Oseas Dist	980.70	£10.48	-36.40	0.12
(Accum Units)	£13.72	£14.61	-47.30	0.12
UK Dist	322.50	344.90†	-11.70	2.68
(Accum Units)	633.30	677.30	-23.00	2.68
UK Extra Inc Dist	73.87	79.00	-1.29	4.06
Wwide Dist	101.40	108.40†	-3.70	
Wwide Inc Dist	67.22	71.89†	-1.55	2.29
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS				
Dlg: 0277 690 390 Admin Enq: 0277 690 398				
Europe Inc	61.96	65.39	-0.82	0.49
Fund of Funds Inc	56.39	59.51	-1.39	0.67
North America Inc	46.16	48.73	-1.81	0.23
UK Equity Gth Inc	55.77	58.86†	-1.42	2.12
(Accum Units)	57.89	61.10	-1.45	2.12
UK General Inc	54.15	57.15†	-1.51	3.62
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	45.92	47.34†	+0.45	7.26
UK Income Inc	54.23	57.24†	-1.60	5.14
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Price enquiry freephone 0500 33 00 00				
Income	217.23	231.10†	-6.38	3.42
Global	328.12	349.07	-10.00	0.07
General	179.54	191.01	-4.17	1.82
Bond	114.94	121.94	+1.95	6.18
Growth	116.64	124.09†	-3.60	2.41
Intnatl	116.18	121.03†	-0.18	1.53
Bridge Fund	85.72	91.20		2.16
Distributor	86.71	92.25	-2.20	3.19
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
0603 682 234				
Master Trust	116.86	124.31	-3.18	1.69
UK Equity	130.23	138.54	-4.52	3.16
UK Equity Income	122.95	130.80†	-4.33	3.56
UK Smaller Cos	113.11	120.33	-0.63	1.54
UK Equity Growth	121.83	129.61	-3.82	2.30
UK Index Trckg	132.42	140.87	-3.93	3.58
Intl Index Trckg	137.78	146.57	-3.37	1.16
International	223.98	238.28†	-6.90	0.35
European	186.88	198.81	-2.12	0.24
Pan European	124.42	132.36†	-2.34	1.30
Nth American	154.46	164.32†	-4.60	0.36
N Amer Smlr Cos	172.81	183.84	-4.29	
Japanese	95.28	101.36	-3.29	
Pacific	234.20	249.15	-11.55	0.03
South East Asian	257.81	274.27†	-16.25	0.30
Intl Bond	126.67	134.65	+1.62	4.37
Gilt & Convertible	102.30	108.73	+0.71	6.32
Property	84.46	89.85	-0.27	4.85
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 0733 470 470				
Equity	229.00	243.60	-8.10	2.59
(Accum Units)	477.20	507.60	-16.80	2.59
Growth	147.80	154.70	-4.80	2.67
Income	224.50	238.70†	-8.10	3.83
Intl Equity	241.00	256.30	-5.80	0.85
(Accum Units)	266.30	283.30	-6.50	0.85
UK Income	62.71	66.71	-2.28	3.22
UK Intl 25	75.24	80.03	-2.53	2.00
New Europe	76.35	81.22	-0.49	0.50
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
0491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	578.41	618.63†	-21.93	0.24
(Accum Units)	578.41	618.63	-21.93	0.24
Income	322.38	344.80†	-10.89	3.30
Wwide Recovery	363.84	389.14	-13.40	0.08
Amer Growth Inc	202.06	216.11	-7.34	0.01
(Accum Units)	202.06	216.11	-7.34	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	237.92	254.46	-7.63	0.14
Far Eastn Gth Inc	282.51	302.18	-9.86	0.09
(Accum Units)	282.51	302.16	-9.86	0.09
Euro Gwth Inc	132.90	142.14	-2.10	0.55
(Accum Units)	132.90	142.14	-2.10	0.55
UK Growth Inc	83.20	88.99	-2.69	2.64
(Accum Units)	85.22	91.15	-2.76	2.64
High Income	89.87	96.12	-2.57	4.00
Jap Gwth Inc	225.68	241.38	-6.50	0.01
(Accum Units)	226.68	241.38	-6.50	0.01
PEP Growth	113.50	121.40	-3.57	0.94
Asian Sm Mkts Inc	128.21	137.13	-8.46	0.01
(Accum Units)	128.21	137.13	-8.46	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	119.37	127.57†	-6.06	0.01
(Accum Units)	119.27	127.57	-6.05	0.01
Global Bond	53.20	56.02	+0.74	6.04
UK Smaller Cos Inc	77.59	82.99	+1.40	1.24
(Accum Units)	80.61	86.22	+1.47	1.24
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
091 201 3927				
American	96.01	102.14	-4.04	
European	68.63	73.01	-1.67	
Global	64.43	68.53	-2.02	
Pacific	61.91	65.86	-2.93	
UK Inc & Grth	62.13	66.10	-1.10	1.92
POINTON YORK UT MGRS				
0533 550 540				
Brit Director Dlgs	93.57	99.85	-2.72	0.35
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
Portfolio	157.11	165.38	+1.66	0.64
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0444 458 721				
Monthly Income	56.68	60.08	-0.88	2.52
Growth Income	60.31	63.92	-0.44	2.01
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0732 740 700				
Principal Tst	124.40	132.35	-3.72	1.73
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	87.28	92.85	-0.87	3.69
Conv & Gilt	111.40	118.50†	+0.80	6.30
European Income	70.93	75.46†	-0.34	2.90
Extra Income	143.60	152.70	-4.00	3.99
(Accum Units)	172.90	183.90	-4.80	3.99
Far East	402.10	427.70	-21.00	0.24
(Accum Units)	409.70	435.80	-21.40	0.24
Global Income	24.69	26.27	-0.32	4.70
High Income	109.60	116.60†	-2.80	3.67
(Accum Units)	130.30	138.60	-3.30	3.67
International	199.70	212.50	-8.30	0.51
(Accum Units)	205.60	219.00	-6.20	0.51
Pref & Fxd Inc	41.01	43.63†	-0.59	7.46
Recovery	69.03	73.43	-1.80	2.52
Special Sits	101.00	107.50	-1.40	1.28
(Accum Units)	108.60	115.50	-1.50	1.28
Technology	337.30	358.80	-11.40	
UK Blue Chip	65.66	69.75	-2.01	2.97
(Accum Units)	72.72	77.36	-2.23	2.97
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0622 674 751				
General	50.40	53.62	-2.05	2.22
International	86.40	91.91	-2.69	0.39
Gilt	33.63	34.36†	-0.63	6.72
Income & Gwth	66.97	71.24†	-2.23	4.91
European	50.24	53.45	-0.37	0.44
American	50.32	53.53	-1.44	
Emerging Mkts	83.16	88.47	-4.40	0.04
UK Smaller Cos	28.00	29.79	-1.69	1.74
Gilt/Fixed Interest	24.60	26.17	-0.12	7.13
Global PEP	37.66	40.06†	-1.27	1.22
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL FD MGRS LTD				
0256 788 888				
European Inc	253.60	273.10	-4.80	...
(Accum Units)	268.30	288.90	-5.20	...
Japan Inc	109.60	118.90†	-3.50	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Nth American Inc	102.20	110.30	-3.50	
Worldwide Inc	157.50	169.40	-4.10	
Hong Kong Inc	132.70	142.40	-13.50	1.02
Swiss Equities Inc	63.90	68.42	-0.69	
Wwide Bond Inc	59.39	62.78	+0.42	5.41
Emging Asia Inc	224.30	243.80	-11.70	
(Accum Units)	225.10	244.70	-11.70	
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.14	50.14†	-0.04	4.97
Thailand Inc	162.40	174.30†	-12.40	0.21
Gold Trust Inc	76.74	82.99	-4.84	0.22
New Zealand Inc	84.32	90.86†	-2.82	1.55
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	61.74	66.52	-1.46	0.66
Latin Am Emg Inc	87.19	93.96	-4.20	0.01
UK All Sh Mkt Inc	55.45	59.50	-1.92	2.61
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Investors	77.14	82.15†	-3.27	
Global Portfolio	70.62	75.53	-2.08	
Global Oppo	70.91	75.84	-2.08	
Marsh Global Gth	65.02	68.96	-1.85	
AAM Global Equity	52.32	55.45†	-1.66	
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	83.90	90.35	-2.40	
Temple Equity Inc	43.72	46.76	-1.34	3.08
Hartley Growth	71.09	75.26	-1.40	0.26
Intl Growth Inc	84.51	90.38†	-1.10	0.73
IPS Portfolio Inc	83.79	89.61	-2.54	
St Jnc Mn Inc Inc	46.32	47.96	+0.13	
Premier Pertnrs Inc	67.81	72.52	-0.56	0.70
Roxburgh Strat Gth	71.95	76.95	-1.46	
Tech Analysts	95.44	102.60	-2.90	
Ashelden Growth	49.60	53.81	-2.84	
International Strat	76.77	82.11	-2.00	
UFC Int-Act Gth	52.93	57.15	-1.64	
Coverdale Topsail	50.27	54.40	-1.67	
Prem Equity Inc	108.70	114.40		
Lomes Intl Growth	43.96	46.27	-0.42	
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 588 3903				
Equity Gth	161.50	171.80	-3.30	1.63
European Gth	95.07	100.70	-1.60	0.17
Income & Gth #	125.10	133.40	-3.50	3.24
Japan Gth	121.70	129.00	-4.20	
Nth Amer Gth	106.90	115.80	-4.50	0.18
Overseas Gth	86.64	92.17	-3.25	
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490				
Managed Tst	35.14	37.58	-0.84	1.43
Cash Haven Inc	100.36	101.46†	-0.06	4.35
Cash Haven Acc	110.53	111.07†	-0.07	4.35
Dist Trust Inc	92.34	98.75†	-1.35	4.26
Dist Trust Acc	94.37	100.93†	-1.38	4.26
Global Growth	84.75	90.64	-2.25	1.29
Equity Inc	77.48	82.86†	-3.84	3.78
Equity	685.46	733.11†	-24.32	2.27
European	202.25	216.30†	-3.06	0.72
High Income	85.15	91.06	-1.34	5.01
Intl Gth	172.41	184.39	-4.94	1.26
Intl Gth Co	74.37	79.54	-2.32	0.49
Japanese	219.12	234.35	-6.47	
Nth Amer	150.30	160.61†	-3.96	1.76
Pacific Mkts	100.75	107.75	-5.26	0.23
Premier Inc	46.78	48.69†	-0.49	4.86
Sm Cos	83.08	88.85†	-0.76	1.53
Spec Sits	102.73	109.87	-3.40	2.11
UK Growth	114.11	122.04	-5.11	2.20
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS. LTD				
0892 510 033				
British Life	282.90	300.10	-11.10	3.25
ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD				
081 285 2555				
Managed	92.30	97.93	-1.57	2.18
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 071 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	471.58	502.31	-18.21	0.36
FA America (Acc)	551.32	587.25	-21.32	0.36
FA UK Equity Inc	147.28	156.92†	-6.37	3.69
FA Japan	352.79	379.93	-9.02	
FA Major UK Cos	90.05	95.93	-3.40	2.38
FA Smll UK Cos	279.58	303.98	-4.50	1.35
FA European	306.82	327.09	-2.13	0.52
FA Amer Smllr Cos	41.57	44.62	-1.14	
FA Asia	49.52	53.11	-2.86	
FA Jap Smlls Cos	50.80	54.34	-2.57	
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	90.07	94.80	-3.36	
UK Smll Cos	86.26	94.48	-1.25	
UK Income	89.00	93.68	-3.70	
America	94.73	99.71	-3.61	
Japanese	57.80	60.84	-1.95	
European	98.68	103.87	-0.67	
Gilt	85.38	89.87	+1.02	
Deposit	82.49	86.83	+0.09	
Managed	94.12	99.07	-2.68	
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	87.73	92.34	-3.28	
UK Smaller Cos	78.45	82.57	-1.23	
UK Income	86.85	91.41	-3.62	
America	92.24	97.09	-3.52	
Japanese	56.30	59.26	-1.91	
European	96.15	101.20	-0.67	
Gilt	84.50	88.93	+1.00	
Deposit	78.54	82.67	+0.06	
Managed	88.72	93.38	-2.67	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 0733 282 828 Ben Enq: 0733 390 000				
United States	70.84	75.52	-2.94	0.24
Pacific Basin	79.50	85.63	-3.46	
High Inc Dist	123.00	131.50	-3.70	5.40
Ryl Life Intl Cmy	56.71	60.30	-0.40	4.36
Ryl Lfe Intl Gwth	64.60	69.01	-2.07	0.029
Ryl Life Intl Spec	61.77	65.70	-2.60	
UK Emerging Cos	122.20	132.10	-3.20	1.16
UK Index Trckg	154.50	164.80†	-5.60	3.34
European	123.80	133.30†	-1.40	0.29
Managed	139.80	150.30	-4.30	0.85
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0206 764 400				
American Growth	134.60	142.50	-5.10	0.36
European Growth	107.20	113.30	-1.20	0.80
Far East Growth	133.00	141.50	-8.60	0.24
Japan Growth	135.50	144.10†	-4.00	
Special Sits	185.10	196.90	-3.30	1.52
UK Growth	72.89	77.54	-2.20	2.41
Triton General	227.50	242.10†	-7.70	0.60
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
041 307 6500				
Far East Inc	170.60	180.50	-8.60	0.10
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	342.60	362.50	-4.50	0.56
(Accum Units)	529.00	559.80	-7.00	0.59
Growth Inc	128.60	136.10	-3.10	0.55
(Accum Units)	131.30	138.60	-3.20	0.55
International Inc	332.50	351.90	-7.50	0.37
(Accum Units)	456.00	482.50	-10.40	0.37
Nth Am & Intl Inc	309.70	327.70	-4.00	0.49
UK Gen Prog Inc	216.10	230.80	-3.50	1.18
UK High Inc Inc	127.70	135.10	-4.20	3.85
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
071 330 0573				
American Gwth	58.78	62.53†	-2.57	
Amer Smllr Cos	71.02	75.55†	-3.97	
Asian Gwth	113.68	120.93	-6.52	0.75
European Gwth	65.16	69.30	-1.37	1.00
Global Bd	57.67	61.19	-0.68	5.00
Global Eq	62.14	66.10	-1.85	0.50
Japanese Eq	55.79	59.34†	-1.78	
Japan Sm Cos	65.54	69.72	-2.25	
UK Gen	50.96	54.21	-1.96	2.80
UK Gwth	56.12	59.97	-1.33	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
0708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	64.20	68.30†	-2.17	4.38
Amer Smllr Cos	103.70	110.30	-3.80	
Asian Smaller Cos	46.51	49.48	-3.16	
Capital Portfolio	123.10	131.00	-4.30	2.20
Capital	156.60	166.60	-5.10	0.65
Cash	125.10	125.10	+0.10	4.97
China Dragon	80.09	83.93	-4.70	0.80
Commodity	129.50	137.80	-6.30	0.32
Eastern Discovery	102.30	108.80	-4.70	
Emerging Mkts	42.33	45.02	-2.04	
Energy Inds	118.00	125.50	-4.20	0.44
European Gwth	183.50	195.20†	-2.10	
Euro Inc & Gwth #	75.16	79.96	-0.97	2.03
Euro Smllr Cos	50.91	54.16†	-0.44	
Extra Income #	49.80	51.38	-0.67	6.41
Financial Secs	190.40	202.60†	-6.50	1.06
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	47.87	50.52	-0.43	8.97
Gold & Exploration	82.63	87.90	-4.69	0.25
High Return #	215.70	229.50	-6.80	4.43
High Yield #	213.70	227.30	-7.80	4.12
Income #	113.80	121.10	-3.00	4.53
Intl Bond	158.00	166.90	+1.30	5.86
ITU	201.60	214.50†	-5.80	1.45
Japan Growth	176.00	187.20	-6.70	
Japan Smaller	191.50	203.70	-8.90	
Korea	78.45	83.46†	-2.14	
Masterfund	53.77	57.20	-1.47	0.30
Scotbits	286.90	305.20	-10.80	1.01
Scotshares #	272.60	290.00†	-8.90	2.40
Scotyields #	228.80	243.40	-8.40	3.88
Select Intl	136.90	145.60†	-4.30	0.48
Smaller Cos Inc #	241.00	256.40	-2.50	3.75
SE Asia	57.36	61.02	-3.68	
Special Situation	117.50	125.00	-3.70	1.27
UK Equity #	332.10	346.90	-8.60	3.03
UK Growth	60.55	64.41	-1.93	1.44
UK Smlr Cos Gwth	45.72	48.64	-0.41	0.79
US Growth	137.70	146.50	-5.30	0.47
Univ Growth	138.00	144.70	-3.80	0.79
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Cust: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	232.46	247.37†	-5.39	0.82
(Accum Units)	253.98	270.27	-5.78	0.82
European Gwth	71.68	76.32	-0.86	0.96
Euro Smll Cos	74.07	79.00	-1.03	0.13
Far Eastern Gth	97.77	104.28	-5.15	
(Accum Units)	99.53	106.16	-5.25	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	49.96	52.68	-0.39	7.22
Global Bond #	47.78	50.41	+0.65	6.25
(Accum Units) #	52.36	54.01	+0.69	6.25
Global Emrg Mkts	56.74	60.52†	-2.15	
(Accum Units)	56.74	60.52	-2.15	
Income #	331.62	353.72	-12.81	3.67
(Accum Units) #	£10.33	£11.02	-39.91	3.67
Japan Smlr Cos	489.86	522.51	-20.81	
(Accum Units)	490.84	523.55	-20.86	
Japan Enterprise	69.71	74.35†	-2.59	
Pacific Gwth	131.66	140.43	-8.95	
(Accum Units)	135.91	144.97	-9.23	
Seoul	55.84	60.22	-2.23	
(Accum Units)	55.84	60.22	-2.23	
Smaller Cos	202.82	216.34	-1.96	0.66
Tokyo	125.34	133.69	-3.53	
(Accum Units)	126.61	135.04	-3.56	
UK Enterprise	237.37	253.19	-6.88	1.97
(Accum Units)	282.45	301.28	-8.19	1.97
UK Equity	225.82	241.94	-6.98	2.69
(Accum Units)	436.05	465.12	-13.43	2.69
US Smlr Cos	146.73	156.51	-5.74	
(Accum Units)	42.43	44.19	-1.65	0.48
World Fd	77.56	82.73	-2.10	1.95
(Accum Units)	83.57	89.14	-2.26	1.95
Institutional Funds				
European	227.08	236.54	-2.64	1.33
(Accum Units)	251.82	262.31	-2.93	1.33
Euro Smlr Cos	28.05	29.21	-0.37	1.66
(Accum Units)	29.76	30.99	-0.40	1.66
Global Equity Inc	75.25	78.38†	-2.40	0.84
Japan Smlr Cos	39.45	41.09	-1.41	
(Accum Units)	39.76	41.41	-1.42	
Mngd Balanced	178.69	186.13†	-4.23	2.80
(Accum Units)	201.80	209.98	-4.78	2.80
Overseas Equity	185.19	192.98	-5.36	0.84
(Accum Units)	191.01	198.97	-5.51	0.84
Oseas Smlr Cos	121.16	126.20	-3.85	0.56
(Accum Units)	126.36	131.62	-4.01	0.56
Pacific	250.98	261.43†	-14.89	1.06
(Accum Units)	273.84	285.25	-16.24	1.06
Recovery	£17.79	£18.54	-48.69	2.91
(Accum Units)	£18.62	£19.39	-42.58	2.91
UK Index	145.18	151.22	-5.16	3.48
(Accum Units)	177.15	184.53	-6.25	3.48
UK Small Cos	109.63	114.19	-0.95	2.60
(Accum Units)	116.18	121.01	-1.01	2.60
US Smlr Cos	41.69	43.42†	-1.62	0.48
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
041 204 2200				
Equity Income	47.44	50.52	-1.09	2.78
Equity Trust	57.90	61.66	-1.93	2.46
Equity Strategy	66.40	70.72	-1.54	1.60
European Opps	84.08	89.54	-0.88	0.73
UK Smaller Cos	60.76	64.71	-0.53	1.25
Maximum Inc	98.98	101.55	+0.09	5.91
Japanese	77.69	82.74	-3.30	
Asia Pacific	125.11	133.24	-7.95	0.86
American	93.49	99.57	-3.49	0.69
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	30.66	30.66	+0.03	5.197
UK General Inc	48.64	51.38	-1.74	2.84
(Accum Units)	62.46	66.82	-2.24	2.84
Intl Income	271.60	288.80†	-6.50	1.01
(Accum Units)	465.30	495.20†	-11.80	1.01
European	77.86	82.62	-0.47	1.47
Japan	68.66	72.98	-2.08	0.06
American	62.48	66.20†	-1.62	1.92
Far East	88.65	94.56	-4.06	0.76

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Ethical Inc	28.72	30.71	-0.67	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	31.40	33.56†	-1.08	2.96
High Inc Inc	33.87	36.13	-1.05	3.44
UK Global Inc	39.32	41.94	-1.21	1.57
Wwide Tact	73.03	78.11†	-1.41	1.25
Europe 2000 Tact	51.57	54.89	-0.51	1.51
Technology	103.35	110.28†	-2.36	1.51
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
031 225 2211				
UK Equity	361.50	386.20	-12.80	2.37
American	244.20	259.30	-9.70	0.50
Pacific	384.60	411.30	-19.50	0.59
European	524.50	561.00	-7.00	1.26
Worldwide	85.42	91.37	-3.31	0.75
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
041 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	260.20	276.90	-8.50	2.24
(Accum Units)	321.50	342.10	-10.50	2.24
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	190.40	202.60	-0.70	1.61
(Accum Units)	226.70	241.20	-0.70	1.61
Select Oppty Inc	63.38	67.79	-1.94	2.11
Income Plus Inc	67.58	71.90	-2.38	4.15
European Inc	333.90	355.30†	-3.80	0.63
(Accum Units)	377.30	401.40†	-4.30	0.68
Far Eastern Inc	173.20	186.40†	-9.00	0.78
(Accum Units)	199.30	212.10†	-10.30	0.78
Japanese Inc	62.66	66.66†	-1.90	
Nth American Inc	226.30	240.70†	-8.50	0.55
(Accum Units)	249.10	265.10†	-9.30	0.55
Intl Growth Inc	196.80	209.40	-6.40	0.76
Wwide Venture Inc	77.57	82.53	-2.70	0.73
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
031 655 3724				
Equity Inc	344.00	366.90	-10.10	2.85
(Accum Units)	504.60	538.10	-14.90	2.85
UK High Inc	173.20	184.70	-4.70	3.83
(Accum Units)	250.00	266.60	-6.90	3.83
Europe Inc	352.70	376.10	-6.40	0.20
Nth Amer Inc	206.90	220.70	-7.80	0.42
Global Inc	199.80	213.10	-3.60	0.09
UK Spec Sits Inc	92.08	99.16	-2.24	2.99
South East Asia	226.30	241.30	-12.60	0.51
Cash Trust Inc	101.70	101.70	-0.10	4.96
UK Smll Cos Inc	99.42	106.00	-0.70	2.04
(Accum Units)	101.00	107.70	-0.70	2.04
Intl Bond Inc	88.59	94.05	-1.56	6.34
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	144.50	151.80	-1.20	4.39
SHARP (ALBERT E) & CO				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
European	120.30	126.60	-1.10	0.93
Nth American	95.10	100.10	-3.80	0.40
Intl Bond & Conv	120.00	126.30†	-0.60	5.19
Pooled Pension (X)	179.40	192.90†	-4.90	2.28
Smaller Cos	69.30	72.95†	-0.93	1.44
UK General	121.30	127.70†	-4.70	2.13
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
071 626 8826				
Amer Gth Fund‡	94.06		-3.10	0.0
Aztec‡	109.50		-5.70	0.0
European‡	113.50		-2.70	0.0
Global Bond‡	93.21		+1.17	7.68
Samurai‡	83.32		-3.66	0.0
UK Growth‡	98.87		-3.23	2.78
Tat Pans‡	103.80		-3.00	0.0
UK Emerg Leaders‡	97.45		+0.15	1.47
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
071 637 5377				
American	281.80	298.20	-7.20	0.23
Canadian	67.93	71.88†	-3.24	0.74
Capital	121.00	129.70	-2.40	1.39
Cash	100.69	100.69	+0.07	4.92
European	130.10	137.10	-1.90	0.60
Far Eastern	164.50	174.10	-5.90	...
Growth	130.20	137.70	-4.40	1.10
Income	124.90	132.10	-3.60	5.87
Magnum	129.40	138.70	-4.00	1.27
Smll Secs	370.70	392.20	-3.40	0.78
Thoroughbred	150.40	161.30	-4.40	1.12
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0202 298 422				
Cash	49.68	50.18†	+0.04	4.40
Gnrtls Prfrmnce	54.29	57.90	-0.49	7.90
Ethical	52.75	56.11	-1.05	3.10
European Growth	71.02	75.75	-0.44	2.70
Income	52.23	55.71†	-1.47	5.90
Intl Growth	95.49	101.85	-1.15	2.90
Managed	78.87	84.12	-1.71	3.80
UK Growth	58.59	62.49	-1.70	3.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	37.39	39.64	-1.03	1.69
Global Advtg Acc	39.87	42.27	-1.09	1.69
Income Advtg Inc	30.21	32.03	-0.80	3.98
Income Advtg Acc	33.01	35.00	-0.87	3.98
UK Equity Gth Acc	63.28	67.08	-1.61	1.13
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	48.66	51.71	-1.36	1.58
Uk Eq Hi Inc Acc	35.12	37.32†	-1.02	3.91
Uk Eq Hi Inc Acc	43.51	46.23	-1.27	3.91
UK Equity Gen Acc	59.19	62.89	-1.86	2.34
UK Equity Gen Inc	43.78	46.52	-1.38	2.34
Gilt & Fxd Int Acc	29.99	31.72†	+0.45	6.76
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	301.50	327.20	-7.50	1.49
Nth American Acc	42.08	44.72	-1.09	1.01
Far East Acc	68.35	72.63	-3.05	0.11
European Acc	51.01	54.20	-0.48	0.78
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
071 344 7000				
Global A (US$)	3.647	3.868	-0.10	0.55
US Eqty (US$)	2.266	2.428	-0.10	0.71
Far East Eqts (yen)	235.30	249.90	-3.00	
Japan Eqtes (yen)	251.30	266.90	-5.50	
FT Europe	119.30	126.70†	-4.100	1.57
FT N Amer (US$)	1.715	1.820	-0.06	0.99
FT Japan (yen)	225.40	239.40	-3.60	
FT Asia Eqty (US$)	2.407	2.557†	-0.20	0.94
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 226 3271				
American	336.60	358.60	-16.30	
British #	956.50	£10.12	-24.50	4.30
Emrging Mkts	163.60	174.20	-6.90	
European	508.70	543.30	-3.30	0.96
Japan	153.00	162.30	-4.60	
New Pacific	399.40	426.90	-11.50	0.73
(Accum Units)	421.00	449.50	-12.20	0.73
Inv Trust Acc	155.00	167.10	-1.00	1.35
Mngd Equity	166.50	176.20	-3.80	1.42
Mngd Cash	96.06	96.06	-0.08	4.85
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Equity	776.60	830.60	-26.30	3.41
North America	117.00	125.10	-4.00	0.98
Far East	148.60	158.90	-7.40	
Wwide Bond	54.74	58.11†	+0.74	5.38
European	98.85	105.70†	-1.40	0.06
Equity Income	85.82	92.86	-2.72	4.67
Portfolio	81.55	87.22	-2.76	1.18
UK Leading Cos	56.99	60.63	-2.10	3.60
Broker Trusts				
Ind Equity	65.96	70.55	-2.47	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
American Growth	32.45	34.71	-0.82	0.72
Managed Assets	123.21	131.78	-3.06	2.59
UK Income	38.91	41.62	-1.44	3.03
UK Growth	37.13	39.72	-1.32	2.38
Worldwide Growth	34.36	36.75†	-0.94	0.56
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 071 606 4044 Dlg: 071 606 6010				
Discretionary	48.55	51.65	-1.26	
Cap Protector Inc	40.15	42.94†	-0.88	2.59
UK Income Inc	49.09	52.50	-1.70	3.25
Mngd Extra Inc Inc	31.62	33.82†	-0.81	3.73
Mngd High Yld Inc	76.12	81.41†	-1.93	4.26
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	71.38	76.34†	-2.24	3.17
UK Smaller Cos	33.21	35.52†	-0.69	1.70
Pacific Gro Port	46.77	50.02	-3.04	0.20
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
0264 346 794				
American	194.07	205.36	-8.58	
(Accum Units)	213.76	226.20	-9.45	
Brit Growth	90.81	96.09	-4.25	2.11
(Accum Units)	109.27	115.63	-5.11	2.11
European	105.60	111.74	-1.48	0.29
(Accum Units)	112.29	118.83	-1.56	0.29
Extra Income	183.99	194.70	-6.23	4.34
(Accum Units)	312.20	330.37	-10.59	4.34
Smaller Cos	68.32	72.30	-0.78	1.48
(Accum Units)	76.64	81.10	-0.87	1.48
General	267.06	282.60	-11.01	2.41
(Accum Units)	545.25	576.98	-22.46	2.41
Preference Income	48.29	50.30†	-0.12	6.21
(Accum Units)	108.80	113.34†	+0.28	6.21
Income	327.92	347.00	-5.37	4.00
(Accum Units)	705.68	746.73	-11.55	4.00
Pacific	423.11	447.73	-29.96	
(Accum Units)	444.58	470.45	-31.48	
International	527.45	558.15†	-16.56	0.01
(Accum Units)	693.56	733.93†	-21.77	0.01
Nat Resources	161.29	170.67†	-7.35	
Spec Opps	100.51	106.36	-3.12	1.37
(Accum Units)	127.96	135.40	-3.97	1.37
Environmental Inv	59.84	63.32	-1.78	1.91
Selector	59.59	63.06†	-1.80	2.25
(Accum Units)	67.21	71.13†	-2.03	2.25
High Income	62.05	65.66	-1.71	4.69
(Accum Units)	77.20	81.70	-2.12	4.69
Intl Income	55.90	59.16	-0.09	5.22
(Accum Units)	68.73	72.73	-0.12	5.22
Selector Income	58.19	61.58†	-1.15	5.12
(Accum Units)	68.34	72.31†	-1.36	5.12
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
081 667 1018				
British	310.90	327.20	-9.70	2.74
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	197.11	210.81	-3.24	1.31
Glob Balncd Inc	167.97	179.01†	-2.30	2.67
Value Tst Inc	116.78	124.90	-2.52	1.51
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3001				
Dossiers Emr Bd	39.48	41.45†	-0.28	6.30
European Growth	263.22	279.26	-3.84	0.90
Exempt	503.26	526.38†	-16.15	3.60
Global Emr Mkts	101.03	107.76†	-4.22	0.60
Japan Tst	80.38	85.68	-2.52	
Little Dragons	89.55	95.52	-6.04	
Nth Amer Gwth	213.57	227.41	-6.80	0.70
Oriental Income	45.64	48.68†	-1.80	1.40
Preference	112.19	119.98†	-0.09	9.10
Tiger	280.73	299.44	-18.54	
(Accum Units)	294.94	314.60	-19.45	
UK Blue Chip	59.45	63.42	-2.17	3.10
UK Growth	484.01	517.65†	-14.36	2.30
UK High Yield	98.96	105.83†	-3.51	3.60
(Accum Units)	319.07	341.25†	-11.33	3.60
UK Mid-Cap	245.63	262.59†	-6.52	2.10
UK Smllr Cos	97.07	103.81	-0.85	1.10
UK Smll Cos Div	91.83	98.21†	-0.97	5.00
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
0277 690 330				
UK Equity Income	92.96	98.89	-2.69	3.06
UK Equity Growth	83.26	88.57	-2.40	2.45
European	67.60	71.91†	-0.35	0.99
Nth American	64.26	68.36†	-2.27	0.93
Far Eastern	71.35	75.90	-1.38	0.57
Money	66.73	68.73	+0.03	3.97
Fixed Interest	70.38	74.87	-0.50	6.42
Index Linked Gilt	64.34	68.45	+0.13	1.35
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	28.28	30.08	-1.01	
Pacific Basin	45.33	48.22	-0.78	
Can Balncd Gwth	22.14	23.55	-0.49	
Global Bond (US$)	0.86	0.89	+0.01	
Penny Share	31.96	34.0	-0.89	0.30
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 600 0452				
Challenger	93.69	95.76†	+1.39	
Short Dtd Gilt	110.00	111.50	+0.70	
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.72	0.73†	+0.00	0.84
Gilt Income	49.63	51.65	-0.58	7.50
Gilt Growth	69.46	70.33	-1.22	
City Reserve	53.23	53.24	+0.03	4.91
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	75.72	80.54	-2.02	2.01

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return), † Ex dividend ‡ Middle price .... No significant data # Periodic Charge deducted from capital, @ Exit Charge

Talented mare to take Newbury showpiece en route to Gold Cup

Dubacilla can steal Hennessy glory

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

A ROLL call of honour, headed by Arkle, Mill House, Bregawn and Burrough Hill Lad, can gain an exclusive recruit today with Dubacilla becoming the first mare to win the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury.

While Kerstin achieved the feat in 1959 when the race was staged at Cheltenham, her performance has not been equalled since the centrepiece of jumping's autumn campaign was switched the following season to its permanent Berkshire home.

Outside the jumping festivals staged at Cheltenham and Aintree, the Hennessy is arguably the most significant steeplechase run in Britain — and invariably provides significant pointers to the outcome of the Cheltenham Gold Cup and Grand National the following spring.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: DUBACILLA
(2.00 Newbury)
Next best: Aljazzaf
(3.30 Newbury)

In recent times, Jodami and The Fellow were placed in the Newbury showpiece before winning at Cheltenham, while Mr Frisk and Party Politics used the race as a stepping stone to Aintree glory.

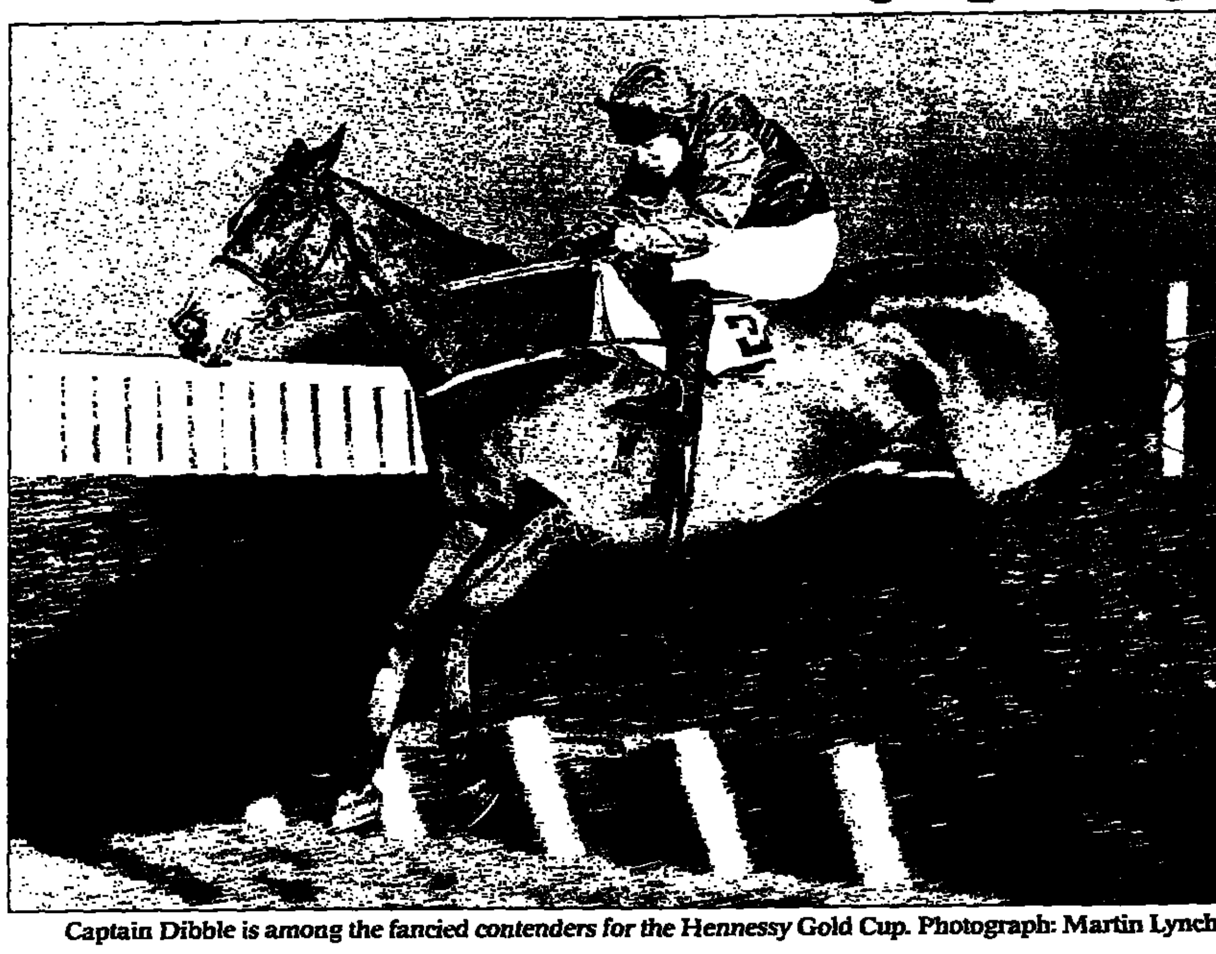
If Dubacilla defies second top weight this afternoon, the mare, bred and owned by Veronica and Henry Cole, will almost certainly become one of the leading fancies for Cheltenham. Having taken the 66-1 on offer this week against a Hennessy-Gold Cup double, I believe she has outstanding claims today in a race where there are question marks about several of her opponents.

Her credentials for the race are rock solid. At Cheltenham in January, she comfortably beat Young Hustler, who subsequently finished third in the Gold Cup, before defying top weight and a hefty rise in the handicap at Ascot. Even a slightly disappointing third to Docklands Express in the Martell Cup at Aintree continued her progressive form.

On her seasonal debut at Sandown three weeks ago, she gained revenge over Docklands Express on worse terms when she was not fully fit. A winner over today's distance and on similar tracks, Dubacilla escapes a penalty for that success and has come on significantly under the eye of her new trainer, David Nicholson.

One Man has been the long-time ante-post favourite but Gordon Richards's second-season chaser is woefully short of experience. In his six victories over fences, he has encountered a total of 25 opponents. Admittedly, his feather weight is tempting but it is far from certain he will stay in a truly run race over this distance. The Richards team is in cracking form but this race has proved something of a jinx for the Greystoke trainer with Hallo Dandy, Twin Oaks and Whispering Steel among those who disappointed previously.

Captain Dibble missed last year, but returned to form when beating Run For Free in a slowly run race at Haydock.



Captain Dibble is among the fancied contenders for the Hennessy Gold Cup. Photograph: Martin Lynch

It is questionable if that form amounts to much and the 4lb penalty for the victory hardly helps his cause, although he is theoretically well treated on his form of two years ago.

Country Member is also nicely handicapped judged on his best performances but Andy Turnell's well-supported runner returns after a 620-day absence. Chatam, the winner here back in 1991, runs particularly well on this flat, left-handed course but is possibly past his best. Fighting Words finished a distance behind Dubacilla at Sandown and will be hard pressed to reverse the form.

The horse who could pose the biggest threat is Martomick, especially if the ground continues to dry out. Another mare, she ran a most encouraging race under top weight at Cheltenham two weeks ago and should improve. For those seeking a long-priced outsider, Capability Brown fits the bill. The former Martin Pipe-trained horse arguably put up his best performance when finishing third to Midnight Caller here recently on her first run for Richard Price, trainer of last season's Champion Hurdle winner, Flakey Dove.

However, I cannot look beyond **Dubacilla**. Provided she gets her fair share of luck, she can join Hennessy's hall of fame and qualify for even greater honours.

Away from the televised races, the Reg Akehurst-trained **Aljazzaf** is expected to shine on his debut over hurdles (3.30). The winner of a good Ascot handicap on the Flat, he has Callisoe Bay to beat. At Newcastle, Mary Reveley's **Batabanoo** is fancied to take the Fighting Fifth Hurdle (2.10).

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

12.40 Uncle Doug
1.10 Cumbrian Challenge
1.40 Reluctant Suitor
2.10 Batabanoo
2.40 Tartan Tradewinds
3.10 Down The Road
3.40 Soloman Springs

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.40 BRANDLING SPONSORS CLUB COMEDY OF ERRORS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,736: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

1 162 ONCE MORE FOR LUCK 14 (D,BF,F) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 11-4 ... P Niven 98
2 3461 TWIN FALLS 7 (G) (Mrs S Moore) G Moore 11-4 ... J Callaghan 99
3 JOE JAGGER 157F (Ms C Carr) Miss M Milligan 10-12 ... L Wyer —
4 3U NINE PIPES 18 (Nine Pipes Racing) J Bidett 10-12 ... L O'Hara —
5 TRIBUNE 481F (Hexagon Racing) C Thornton 10-12 ... Richard Guest —
6 UNCLE DOUG 26F (D Saul) Mrs M Reveley 10-12 ... G Lee (5) —
7 ZAMHAREER 26F (D Sasey) W Storey 10-12 ... N Doughty —
8 MICROLITE 49F (J Brown) M Hammond 10-7 ... D Bentley —

BETTING: 3-1 Uncle Doug, 7-2 Twin Falls, 4-1 Once More For Luck, Microlite, 5-1 Zamhareer, 12-1 Nine Pipes, 20-1 others

1993: MEETING ABANDONED — FOG

1.10 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£6,970: 2m 110yd) (9 runners) C4

1 1645-63 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 21 (D,BF,S) M H Easterby 5-11-10 ... L Wyer 94
2 1-1F112 NOTABLE EXCEPTION 18 (CD,BF,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-0 ... G Lee (5) 99
3 03315-4 PEBBLE LANE 10 (D,G,S) (9 O'Hare) Bernard Jones (Ire) 8-11-0 ... Richard Guest 94
4 0154-14 DARING PAST 14 (D,G,S) (J Petty) M Hammond 4-10-13 ... P Niven 98
5 23-2221 BEND SABLE 14 (D,F,S) (F Storey) F Storey 4-10-10 ... B Storey 95
6 03-1212 ZAJIRA 7 (BF,G) (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 4-10-0 ... R Hodge 96
7 3550-25 SPACE CAPTAIN 14 (G) (E Atkinson) G Moore 7-10-0 ... N Bentley 98
8 45250-2 DUAL IMAGE 14 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Datum Building) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-0 ... D Byrne 94
9 P0/510-2 LITTLE BROMLEY 10 (D,S) (A Eubank) A Eubank 7-10-0 ... Mr R Hale 83

Long handicap: Dual Image 9-13, Little Bromley 9-3

BETTING: 7-2 Cumbrian Challenge, 4-1 Bend Sable, 9-2 Zajira, Notable Exception, 5-1 Pebble Lane, 8-1 Daring Past, 10-1 Dual Image, 14-1 others

FORM FOCUS

CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 22l 3rd of 6 to Morceli in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good). NOTABLE EXCEPTION 3l 2nd of 9 to Knights in handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good). PEBBLE LANE 17l 4th of 14 to Persian Halo in handicap hurdle at Fairyhouse (2m, yielding). DARING PAST 23¾l 4th of 10 to Atours in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). BEND SABLE beat Dwell Dancer 5l in 6-runner handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m, good to soft) with SPACE CAPTAIN (4lb better off) 12½l 5th. ZAJIRA 12l 2nd of 9 to Surrey Dancer in handicap hurdle at Aintree (2m 110yd, good). DUAL IMAGE 20l 2nd of 5 to Musical Trend in handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m, soft). LITTLE BROMLEY 2½l 2nd of 5 to Saint Ciel in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, good to soft).
Selection: NOTABLE EXCEPTION

1.40 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS QUALIFIER (A NOVICES CHASE) (£3,469: 2m 4f) (6 runners) C4

1 4334-11 SPANISH FAIR 16 (C,F,G) (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-13 ... J Berlin (3) 91
2 12-41F1 STRONG DEEL 14 (C,D,F,S) (J Stephenson) W Reed 6-11-13 ... T Reed 88
3 P COOL WEATHER 11 (P McDonagh) P Cheesbrough 6-11-5 ... N Doughty —
4 P GOLDEN FIDDLE 15 (W Wilson) J Oliver 6-11-5 ... B Storey —
5 11100-2 RELUCTANT SUITOR 29 (BF,F,G) (J Bozzeo) M Hammond 5-11-4 ... P Niven 99
6 2F63-63 HEDLEY MILL 7 (G) (J Hope) J Hope 6-11-0 ... Mr A Parker 86

BETTING: 7-4 Strong Deel, Reluctant Suitor, 3-1 Spanish Fair, 10-1 Hedley Mill, 20-1 Cool Weather, Golden Fiddle

FORM FOCUS

SPANISH FAIR completed double, beat Fruhman 3½l in a 6-runner novice handicap chase at Kelso (2m 1f, good to firm). STRONG DEEL beat Ninia 1¼l in 10-runner novice chase at Ayr (2m 4f, good to soft). COOL WEATHER pulled up 4 out behind Scorton Banks in 7-runner novice chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good to soft). RELUCTANT SUITOR 6l 2nd of 9 to Night Wind in novice chase at Wetherby (2m, good). HEDLEY MILL 38l 3rd of 5 to Bavrouge in novice chase at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good).
Selection: STRONG DEEL

2.10 BELLWAY HOMES FIGHTING FIFTH HURDLE (Grade II: £15,660: 2m 110yd) (4 runners) C4

1 3101U-1 MORCELI 21 (CD,G,S) (Mrs J Corbett) J Johnson 6-11-4 ... Richard Guest 87
2 3/1110-4 BATABANOO 23 (CD,F,G,S) (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-0 ... P Niven 92
3 0235-23 ROYAL DERBI 12 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 9-11-0 ... R Campbell 99
4 112-441 SURREY DANCER 7 (D,G,S) (Laurel Leisure Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 ... G Lee 90

BETTING: 2-1 Batabanoo, 9-4 Morceli, 5-2 Surrey Dancer, 7-2 Royal Derbi

FORM FOCUS

MORCELI beat Chief Minister 2l in 6-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with SURREY DANCER (5lb worse off) 20¼l 4th. BATABANOO 13¾l 4th of 5 to Valfinet in grade II Elite Hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good). Beat Satin Lover 8l in 6-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) a year ago. ROYAL DERBI 4l 2nd of 4 to Atours in handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. SURREY DANCER beat Zajira 12l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Aintree (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: BATABANOO

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M W Easterby	10	27	37.0	N Bentley	8	32	25.0
C Parker	4	13	30.8	A Thornton	3	15	20.0
P Cheesbrough	9	31	29.0	P Niven	21	106	19.8
Mrs M Reveley	16	70	22.9	L Wyer	11	66	16.7
G M Moore	12	53	22.6	R Garritty	5	34	14.7
B Wilkinson	5	27	18.5	B Storey	14	112	12.5

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RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, first race 1.10), Kelso (12.20), Worcester (12.30).
TUESDAY: Fontwell Park (1.10), Leicester (12.50), Newcastle (1.00).
WEDNESDAY: Southwell (AW, 12.40), Catterick Bridge (12.50), Huntingdon (12.30).
THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.10), Uttoxeter (12.30), Windsor (12.50).
FRIDAY: Exeter (1.20), Hereford (12.40), Sandown Park (12.55).
SATURDAY: Chepstow (BBC, 1.05), Sandown Park (C4, 12.50), Towcester (12.45), Wetherby (12.40)
Flat meetings in bold

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.40 LADBROKE HANDICAP CHASE (£6,938: 3m) (8 runners) C4

1 1203F-2 MR BOSTON 14 (D,F,G,S) (M Oldham) Mrs M Reveley 9-12-0 ... P Niven 89
2 114-354 ARMAGRET 10 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Wilkinson) B Wilkinson 9-11-7 ... L O'Hara 99
3 1PPF-54 GAY RUFFIAN 14 (G,S) (B McHugh) A Jarvis 8-11-2 ... L Wyer —
4 2111-F1 SILVER STICK 23 (C,D,F,G,S) (Lord Manton) M W Easterby 7-10-13 ... R Garritty 94
5 11/222-2 DURHAM SUNSET 21 (D,F,G,S) (W G Black) J Johnson 7-10-0 ... Richard Guest 97
6 3244-11 TARTAN TRADEWINDS 14 (G,S) (M Mills) G Richards 7-10-0 ... M Moloney 93
7 250U10- CAROUSEL ROCKET 198 (CD,F,G,S) M Hammond 11-10-0 ... D Bentley (3) 87
8 14-4224 ZAM BEE 11 (C,F,G,S) (J Anthony) W Reed 8-10-0 ... B Storey 84

Long handicap: Tartan Tradewinds 9-11, Carousel Rocket 9-7, Zam Bee 9-5.

BETTING: 3-1 Tartan Tradewinds, 7-2 Mr Boston, 4-1 Durham Sunset, Silver Stick, 6-1 Armagret, 8-1 Zam Bee, 12-1 others

FORM FOCUS

MR BOSTON 5l 3rd of 3 to One Man in handicap chase at Ayr (3m 4f, good to soft). ARMAGRET best effort this term 3l 3rd of 4 to Over The Deel in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good to firm) last month. GAY RUFFIAN 29l 4th of 6 to Gold Cap in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 3f 110yd, good to soft). SILVER STICK beat Man Reed 13l in 11-runner handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, good to soft). DURHAM SUNSET 2½l 2nd of 4 to Unholy Alliance in handicap chase here (3m 6f, good). TARTAN TRADEWINDS beat Benman March 4l in 7-runner handicap chase at Ayr (3m 1f, good to soft). CAROUSEL ROCKET beat On The Hooch 2l in 8-runner handicap chase over course and distance (firm) on penultimate start with ZAM BEE (2lb worse off) 2l 3rd.
Selection: DURHAM SUNSET

3.10 DOUGLAS SMITH MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,580: 2m 4f) (3 runners)

1 115/326 DANCING RIVER 11 (D,F,G,S) (B Hathaway) P Cheesbrough 8-11-10 ... P Niven 97
2 221-211 DOWN THE ROAD 38 (CD,F,G,S) (R Craig) J Johnson 7-11-1 ... Richard Guest 99
3 56-0664 BLAZING DAWN 8 (D,G,S) (J Hubbuck) V Thompson 7-10-0 ... B Storey 87

Long handicap: Blazing Dawn 9-7.

BETTING: 4-9 Down The Road, 3-1 Dancing River, 4-1 Blazing Dawn.

3.40 NIXONS KITCHENS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,337: 3m) (9 runners)

1 0/0-11 DISTANT LADY 3 (D,G,S) (P Toner) Mrs S Smith 8-11-13 (5ex) ... Richard Guest 80
2 6232- WEY I MAN 298 (R Collins) R Collins 5-11-10 ... P Carr (7) 85
3 4-00641 SAME DIFFERENCE 14 (S) (A Turnbull) A Jarvis 6-11-3 ... P Morris (7) 98
4 00-0222 D'ARBLAY STREET 8 (J Mitchell) W Kemp 5-11-0 ... S McDougall 82
5 0525-4 CLARET AND GOLD 8 (A Murphy) J Eyre 7-10-13 ... O Pears 80
6 3046-23 SOLOMAN SPRINGS 24 (Mrs V Ward) Mrs V Ward 4-10-8 ... A Thornton 99
7 P0/0-4 GERRYMANDER 19 (H Owen) M Hammond 8-10-5 ... D Bentley (3) 80
8 003/2P-0 GREEN TRIX 19 (R Anderson Green) C Parker 6-10-3 ... B Storey 95
9 BP34-6P CRAIGSTOWN 22 (S) (D Slater) W Cunningham 6-10-1 ... N Smith 85

BETTING: 3-1 Distant Lady, 4-1 Same Difference, 9-2 Wey I Man, 6-1 D'Arblay Street, Gerrymander, Soloman Springs, 8-1 Claret And Gold, 20-1 others.

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 1.20 Shamwari WARWICK: 2.35 Sally's Gem WOLVERHAMPTON: 9.00 Reponist.

Belvederian to thwart Monsieur Le Cure

MONSIEUR Le Cure, last season's Sun Alliance Chase winner, travels from Herefordshire to Punchestown for his seasonal reappearance in today's Durkan Chase (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

John Edwards was forced to pull Monsieur Le Cure out of the Edward Hanmer Chase at Haydock last week after the horse had spread a plate on the training gallops.

Monsieur Le Cure will have a new jockey in the rising Irish star Paul Carberry and will also have the soft ground he relishes. However, these factors may not be enough to beat Merry Gale or the classy Belvederian, who is the selection.

The highly rated Merry Gale has disappointed in both starts this season, including falling in a weak three-horse race last time out. His trainer, Jim Dreaper, has been concerned about his blood count during the past week and, in the circumstances, is best left alone.

Belvederian has 18 lengths to make up on Monsieur Le Cure on Sun Alliance running, but his connections are confident of revenge, especially as he enjoyed an easy Clonmel success recently.

His main rival could turn out to be the Mackeson runner-up, Second Schedual, who will be ridden by Charlie Swan, but Belvederian is preferred.

PUNCHESTOWN LINE-UP

GOING: YIELDING TO SOFT C4

2.45 DURKAN PUNCHESTOWN CHASE (£22,775: 2m 5f) (7 runners)

1 111143 MERRY GALE (H Stanley) J Dreaper 6-12-0 ... K O'Brien —
2 211111- MONSIEUR LE CURE (H Brown) J Edwards (GB) 8-12-0 ... P Carberry —
3 365032 SECOND SCHEDUAL (H McMahon) Miss A McMahon 9-12-0 ... C Swan —
4 2F4F11 BELVEDERIAN (A O'Reilly) M Morris 7-11-8 ... C O'Dwyer —
5 2142PR BUCKBOARD BOUNCE (J Mulhern) J Mulhern 8-11-8 ... J Shortt —
6 013-F50 DEEP HERITAGE (J McManus) A Moore 8-11-8 ... F Woods —
7 2/6021 NUAFFE (J Doyle) P Fahy 9-11-8 ... S H O'Donovan —

BETTING: 11-4 Monsieur Le Cure, 3-1 Second Schedual, 7-2 Belvederian, 5-1 Merry Gale, Nuaffe, 10-1 Buckboard Bounce, 20-1 Deep Heritage

1993: CAHERVILLAHOW 9-11-4 N Williamson (3-1) M Morris 11 ran

Smart Morceli can show the way in Fighting Fifth



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

NEWBURY
BBC1

12.55: Large Action, three times a course winner including last season's Tote Gold Trophy, will take all the beating. Oliver Sherwood's hurdler, who finished third in the Champion Hurdle, was just pipped by Absalom's Lady on his seasonal reappearance at Kempton, where the tight bends would not have suited his galloping style. Jazilah, fourth behind the selection at Kempton, is the main danger.

1.25: Halkopous showed improved form when stepped up to three miles for the first time at Wetherby last month. Always travelling well, Mark Tompkins's runner hurdled fluently before quickening in decisive style. Avro Anson reopposes on 4lb better terms, but will find it tough to reverse the form, especially on the prevailing going. With Jim Old's horses yet to hit form, Hebridean may be a bigger danger.



Guest: double chance

2.00: See above.

NEWCASTLE
C4

1.10: Zajira was sent off a well-backed favourite at Aintree last week, but was caught flat-footed when Surrey Dancer kicked for home three out and was never able to land a blow. She remains fairly treated, but preference is for **Cumbrian Challenge**. Peter Easterby's five-year-old ran well against the best of his generation last season, finishing a fine fourth in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at the Cheltenham festival, and fully deserves his place at the head of the handicap.

1.40: Reluctant Suitor, the best of these over hurdles, made a satisfactory start over fences when runner-up to Night Wind on his reappearance at Wetherby. A line through Seagull Hollow gives him the beating of Spanish Fair and Strong Deel appears the main threat.

2.10: With Norman Williamson and Charlie Swan both committed to riding elsewhere, Richard Guest comes in for the mount on Howard Johnson's **Morceli**, who was impressive in making all to beat Chief Minister over course and distance last time. With waiting tactics being employed on Royal Derbi so far this season, Morceli should be able to dominate in this small field. Batabanoo, a creditable fourth to Valfinet, is the main danger.

2.40: Durham Sunset may have failed to stay when beaten on his reappearance, and can return to winning ways over today's shorter trip. Tartan Tradewinds, an impressive winner at Ayr last time, makes most appeal of the remainder.

RICHARD EVANS
ROBERT WRIGHT

Mixed draw in Japan

THERE were mixed fortunes for the two European-trained challengers for tomorrow's Japan Cup, when the draw was made yesterday, with Apple Tree receiving stall one, and Hernando stall 12. The last 12 winners of the race have been drawn eight or higher.

Both horses worked yesterday, with Hernando and his partner, Cash Asmussen, on the turf and Apple Tree on the dirt track. Asmussen said: "I made him run on the turf course today, and found him in good condition without any problems. I do not care about his starting position."

Alan Cooper, racing manager to Hernando's owner, Stavros Niarchos, said: "He has no problem with the starting position 12, and he has been conditioned well for the race."

Apple Tree's groom, Rene Guillard, was equally happy with his charge's draw, saying: "He is in very good condition and was full of energy at today's training.

"Starting from stall one is not a worry — we do not have any problems with it. He also started from the same position in the Arc, so I believe that position will bring in good fortune. He will run well in the race."

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

12.55 Large Action
1.25 Halkopous
2.00 Fighting Words
2.30 Around The Horn
3.00 MOVING OUT (nap)
3.30 On Air

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.25 HALKOPOUS.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.25 Halkopous.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN BACK STRAIGHT) SIS

12.55 BONUSPRINT GERRY FEILDEN HURDLE (Grade II: £10,460: 2m 110yd) (4 runners) BBC1

101 11601- GLENSTAL FLAGSHIP 212 (D,G) (Red Nab Racing Ltd) J J O'Neill 4-11-6 ... M Dwyer 99
102 1111-42 JAZILAH 23 (D,G,S) (S Aitken) R Akehurst 6-11-6 ... G McCourt 94
103 11133-1 LARGE ACTION 42 (CD,G,S) (B Stewart-Brown) O Sherwood 6-11-6 ... J Osborne 99
104 411- COLLIER BAY 225F (D,S) (W Sturt) J Old 4-11-0 ... T Grantham 87

BETTING: 1-2 Large Action, 11-4 Jazilah, 5-1 Glenstal Flagship, 14-1 Collier Bay.

1993: BOLD BOSS 4-11-3 R Dunwoody (9-4) M Pipe 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

GLENSTAL FLAGSHIP beat Magic Feeling 2½l in 14-runner grade I Murphys Irish Stout Champion Four Year Old Hurdle at Punchestown (2m, good). JAZILAH neck 2nd of 5 to Valfinet in grade II Elite Hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good). LARGE ACTION short-head 2nd of 5 to Absalom's Lady in conditions hurdle at Kempton (2m, good) with JAZILAH 2l 4th. COLLIER BAY beat My Sister Lucy distance in novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, heavy).
Selection: LARGE ACTION

1.25 AKZO NOBEL LONG DISTANCE HURDLE (Grade II: £10,580: 3m 110yd) (6 runners) BBC1

201 32221-2 AVRO ANSON 28 (BF,F,G) (B Skidmore) M Camacho 6-11-7 ... M Dwyer 99
202 3/240P-1 HALKOPOUS 28 (F,G,S) (A Christodoulou) M Tompkins 8-11-4 ... R Dunwoody 99
203 2191/2-2 HEBRIDEAN 21 (BF,S) (P Deal) D Nicholson 7-11-4 ... A Maguire 95
204 122614- SIMPSON 254 (CD,F,G,S) (M Jarvis) J Old 9-11-4 ... T Grantham 97
205 211191- MEDITATOR 233 (D,G,S) (Miss J Doyle) Miss J Doyle 10-11-0 ... S Curran 90
206 15P-401 SPRING MARATHON 17 (C,S) (Mrs N Duffield) Mrs P Duffield 4-10-13 ... P Holley 95

BETTING: Evens Halkopous, 4-1 Avro Anson, 5-1 Simpson, 7-1 Hebridean, Spring Marathon, 10-1 Meditator.

1993: TRIPLE WITCHING 7-11-0 A Maguire (7-4 fav) D Nicholson 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

HALKOPOUS beat AVRO ANSON (4lb better off) 12l in grade II Tote West Yorkshire Hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, good). HEBRIDEAN 1¼l 2nd of 11 to Her Honour in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft). SIMPSON best effort last term beat AVRO ANSON (5lb worse off) 3½l in grade II Premier Long Distance Hurdle at Haydock (3m 110yd, soft). MEDITATOR beat Linkside 10l in handicap hurdle at Aintree (3m 110yd, soft). SPRING MARATHON beat Arctic Weather 11l in conditions hurdle here (2m 5f, heavy).
Selection: HALKOPOUS

2.00 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Grade III: £42,874: 3m 2f 110yd) (17 runners) BBC1

301 3P120-3 BLACK HUMOUR 28 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Lloyd Webber) C Brooks 10-11-10 ... G Bradley 98
302 2101P-F COGENT 28 (CD,F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Glover 10-11-10 ... Mr C Bonner (5) 97
303 420/240- CHATAM 254 (CD,F,G,S) (A Nolan) M Pipe 10-11-9 ... G McCourt 97
304 31113-1 DUBACILLA 21 (G,S) (H Cole) D Nicholson 8-11-9 ... A Maguire 99
305 B128P-5 DEEP BRAMBLE 28 (G,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 7-11-8 ... C Maude 92
306 PP-1110 TIPPING TIM 14 (C,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-1 ... D Bridgwater —
307 5330/21 CAPTAIN DIBBLE 10 (F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-0 (4ex) ... J Osborne 97
308 112/11F GIVUS A BUCK 7 (B,C,F,G,S) (K Costello) D Elsworth 11-10-13 ... P Holley 93
309 111012/ COUNTRY MEMBER 620 (C,G,S) (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 9-10-12 ... L Harvey —
310 0-53014 COMMERCIAL ARTIST 14 (G,S) (M O'Neill) V Bowens (Ire) 8-10-11 ... M Dwyer 90
311 12P12-2 MARTOMICK 15 (BF,F,G,S) (R Shaw) K Bailey 7-10-10 ... N Williamson 94
312 6P4-431 SIBTON ABBEY 11 (CD,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 9-10-10 ... P Verling 92
313 31614-4 FIGHTING WORDS 21 (F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 8-10-10 ... P Hide 96
314 130'1F-F LORD RELIC 7 (S) (Mrs H Clarke) M Pipe 8-10-7 ... R Dunwoody 94
315 UPP4P-3 CAPABILITY BROWN 17 (F,G,S) (D Lewis) R Price 7-10-5 ... M A Fitzgerald 91
316 11110-1 ONE MAN 14 (F,G,S) (J Hales) G Richards 6-10-0 ... A Dobbin 95
317 34/4F4- KING'S CURATE 257 (S) (C Ellis) M Pipe 10-10-0 ... M Perrett 84

Long handicap: King's Curate 9-12.

BETTING: 11-4 One Man, 4-1 Dubacilla, 7-1 Captain Dibble, 8-1 Country Member, 10-1 Black Humour, 14-1 Sibton Abbey, Lord Relic, 16-1 others.

1993: COGENT 9-10-1 D Fortt (10-1) A Turnell 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

BLACK HUMOUR 18½l 3rd of 7 to Young Hustler in grade II Charlie Hall Chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good) with DEEP BRAMBLE (5lb better off) 31½l 5th and COGENT (4lb worse off) fell halfway. DUBACILLA beat Docklands Express 2½l in 4-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to soft) with SIBTON ABBEY distance 3rd and FIGHTING WORDS 2½l 4th. CAPTAIN DIBBLE beat Run For Free 7l in 4-runner handicap chase at Haydock (3m, good to soft). MARTOMICK 10l 2nd of 5 to Earth Summit in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good). SIBTON ABBEY beat Tommy's Friend 1½l in 5-runner handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good to soft). CAPABILITY BROWN 5¼l 3rd of 6 to Midnight Caller in handicap chase here (3m, heavy). ONE MAN beat Mr Boston 5l in 3-runner handicap chase at Ayr (3m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: DUBACILLA (nap)

2.30 NORTH STREET HANDICAP CHASE (£5,530: 2m 1f) (6 runners)

401 2FF3P-1 COULTON 4 (D,F,G,S) (M St Quinton) O Sherwood 7-11-12 (6ex) ... J Osborne 97
402 2112-52 SPREE CROSS 19 (CD,G,S) (P Mason) Mrs D Haine 8-11-11 ... G Bradley 98
403 151/13- CURRENT EXPRESS 280 (G,S) (Lord Matthews) N Henderson 7-11-11 ... M A Fitzgerald 90
404 10P/1-11 BELSTONE FOX 11 (CD,G,S) (Mrs M Sutton) D Nicholson 9-11-6 ... A Maguire 99
405 1210-23 LACKENDARA 28 (F,G,S) (Opening Bid Pens) Miss H Knight 7-11-5 ... R Dunwoody 93
406 21111-1 AROUND THE HORN 17 (CD,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 7-11-4 ... S McNeill 91

BETTING: 6-4 Coulton, 7-2 Belstone Fox, Current Express, 5-1 Around The Horn, 6-1 Lackendara, 8-1 Spree Cross.

1993: YOUNG SNUGFIT 9-11-2 J Osborne (7-2) O Sherwood 5 ran

3.00 FULKE WALWYN CHASE (£5,881: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

501 2F/53-52 AEDEAN 24 (S) (M Ogden-Palmer) G Enright 5-11-0 ... D Bridgwater 83
502 APPROACH THE STARS (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 6-11-0 ... A Maguire —
503 4313-43 BRAVE HIGHLANDER 15 (BF,S) (S Embiricos) J Gifford 6-11-0 ... P Hide 78
504 1-5 GENERAL CRACK 25 (BF,S) (J Keighley) P Nicholls 5-11-0 ... R Dunwoody —
505 2F3504- HANGOVER 203 (G,S) (B Edwards) R Lee 8-11-0 ... N Williamson 85
506 33/542-4 MAAMUR 21 (G) (Park Industrial Supplies Ltd) C Brazil 6-11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 86
507 281-223 MOVING OUT 28 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Bosher) Miss H Knight 6-11-0 ... M Perrett 91
508 4U02/6-6 ROYAL PIPER 9 (S) (A Darlington) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-11-0 ... A Tory —
509 23130-2 THE FROG PRINCE 17 (F) (R Cooper) N Gaselee 6-11-0 ... J Osborne 98
510 420-326 GLENFINN PRINCESS 28 (BF,S) (P McGinty) Mrs M Jones 8-10-9 ... G Bradley 99

BETTING: 7-2 Approach The Stars, 5-1 Aedean, 6-1 Brave Highlander, The Frog Prince, 7-1 General Crack, Maamur, 10-1 others.

1993: SPIRIT OF KIBRIS 8-11-0 J Osborne (3-1) Mrs J Pitman 7 ran

3.30 SPEEN NOVICES HURDLE (£4,013: 2m 110yd) (12 runners)

601 14-1 CALLISOE BAY 29 (D,S) (R Waters) O Sherwood 5-11-6 ... J Osborne 93
602 PP-1 NATIONAL FLAG 69 (S) (R Singer) K Bailey 4-11-6 ... M Kelly (7) 83
603 ALJAZZAF 21F (R Lynch) R Akehurst 4-11-0 ... G McCourt —
604 ANDALUSIAN (A Coogan) A Coogan 7-11-0 ... J McLaughlin —
605 0/F AVENUE FOCH 28 (P O'Donnell) F Murphy 5-11-0 ... A Dobbin —
606 0/0 BOOK OF DREAMS 22 (Mrs B Lockhart) J O'Shea 6-11-0 ... D Bridgwater —
607 5 CALL ME BLUE 35 (D Bowness) T Naughton 4-11-0 ... R Davis 58
608 HALF A TICK 63F (C Wates) P Cole 6-11-0 ... A Maguire —
609 3/PP- HURRICANE RYAN 245 (J Ryan) M Bradstock 6-11-0 ... G Bradley —
610 2 REVELATION 7 (BF) (Mrs D Thompson) R Hannon 4-11-0 ... R Dunwoody 99
611 ON AIR 49F (J Bess) N Gaselee 6-10-9 ... N Williamson —
612 4 PINCH 45 (Bloomsbury Stud) N Henderson 4-10-9 ... M A Fitzgerald —

BETTING: 5-4 Callisoe Bay, 9-4 Aljazzaf, 9-2 Revelation, 6-1 Half A Tick, 10-1 On Air, 16-1 National Flag, 25-1 others.

1993: LARGE ACTION 5-11-0 J Osborne (7-4 fav) O Sherwood 19 ran

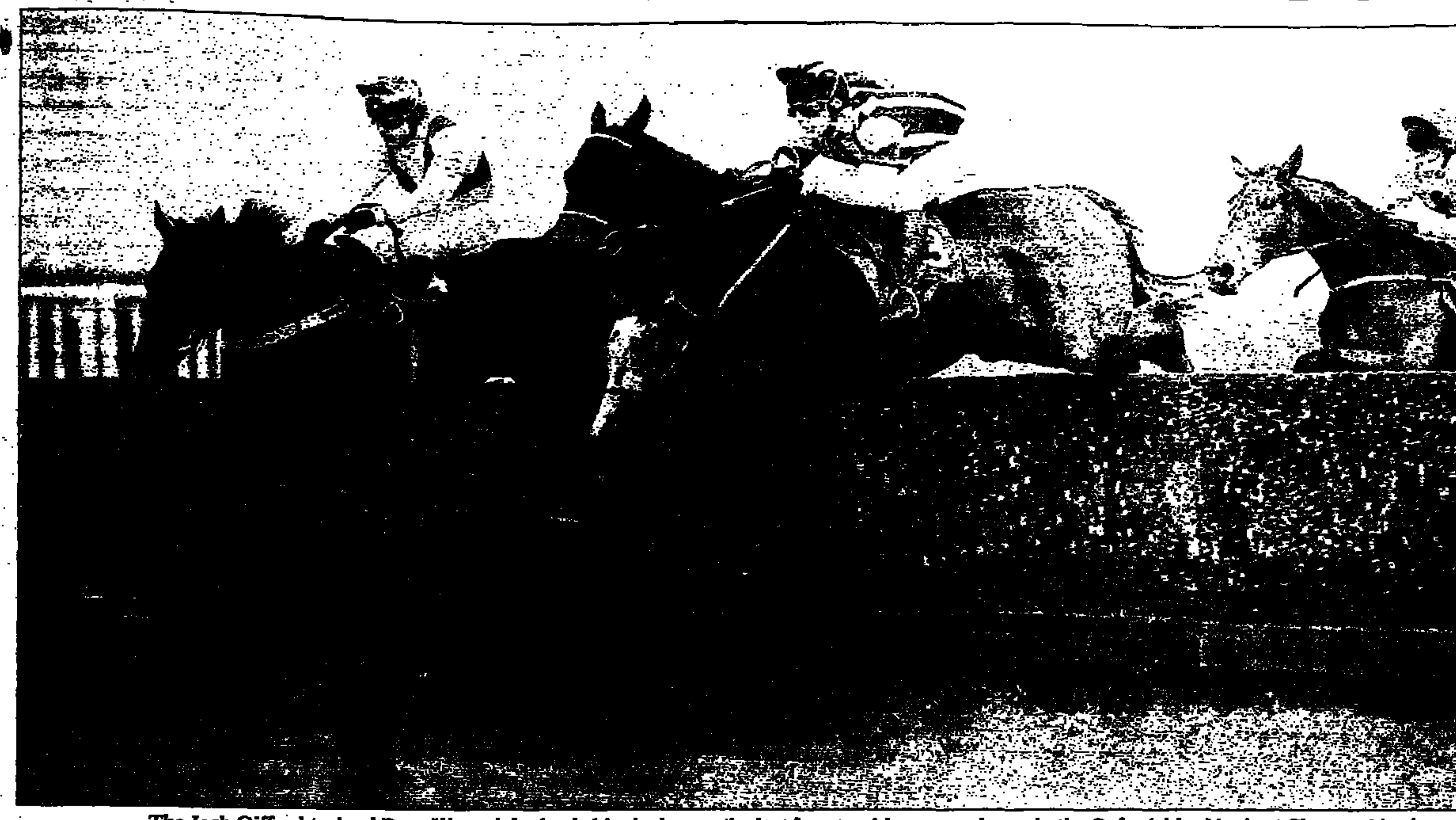
COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Tompkins	7	22	31.8	R Dunwoody	50	173	28.9
R Hannon	4	16	25.0	P Holley	17	64	26.6
M Pipe	21	85	24.7	P Verling	3	13	23.1
D Nicholson	24	101	23.8	J Osborne	33	155	21.3
D Elsworth	18	76	23.7	A Maguire	14	84	16.7
O Sherwood	17	73	23.3	S McNeill	8	53	15.1

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JULIAN HERBERT



The Josh Gifford-trained Rose King, right, leads his rivals over the last fence on his way to victory in the Oxfordshire Novices' Chase at Newbury

Feel The Power signals bright future

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

FEEL The Power lived up to his name in dramatic style at Newbury yesterday to justify Kim Bailey's hopes that he could be a stable star of the future.

A lovely, big horse by Torus, who looks certain to be even better when he graduates to fencing, he turned the well-contested Sonning Novices' Hurdle into a procession from the moment Norman Williamson took up the running three flights from home. With the consistent Prime Of Life finishing second, the form has a solid look and further success is assured.

"Whatever he does now is a bonus," Bailey said. "I want to keep him to novice hurdles this season because he has grown up so much during the past year. If he develops in the same way over this season he will make up into a smashing novice chaser."

Ironically, Bailey had to be bullied into buying Feel The Power, because the only other Torus horse to have been in his yard proved to be a headstrong lunatic. Edward Daly, who helps to spot horses in Ireland for the Upper Lambourn trainer, kept telephoning Bailey insisting that he must buy him.

The six-year-old is owned by Martyn Booth and his wife, Elaine, who deserve a change of luck. Ned The Hall, the first horse they had in training, died after proving allergic to antibiotics.

The victory provided Bailey with a welcome change in fortune after earlier mishaps, which would not have been out of place in a Christmas pantomime. The three-runner Jacky Upton Handicap Chase turned into a farce after Whispering Steel, trained by Bailey, and Tim Forster's Coonawara both fell at the ninth fence leaving Katabatic to saunter home alone.

Josh Gifford, the winning trainer, said: "Like Deep Sensation, he is in the Tripleprint Gold Cup. We don't want to sicken him by taking on the likes of Travado over two miles so 2½ miles is now his trip."

An hour earlier, the same fence proved the undoing of Mr Mulligan on his fencing debut in this country when he was 15 lengths clear of the field in the Oxfordshire Novices' Chase. "He is the highest rated point-to-pointer to come out of Ireland for three years. We shall look after him and if he doesn't run again this season it will not matter. He is only a shell of a horse: a big, ugly duckling but when he grows into his frame he will be very useful," Bailey added.

Toby Balding has twice trained the runner-up in the Triumph Hurdle and the Cheltenham festival race could be on the agenda for Brave Tornado after he benefited from a last-flight blunder by Jaraab to win the Freshman's Juvenile Hurdle.

Philip Hide, who lost his claim as a conditional jockey earlier in the week, continued his rich vein of form with victories on Rose King and Cache Fleur, the latter being his first ride for Martin Pipe.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
11.50 Al Shaati. 12.20 Saterne Lady. 12.50 Captain Marmalade. 1.20 Red Dancer. 1.55 Bon Secret. 2.25 Rambold. 2.55 *Comanche Companion*. 3.25 Sarum.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.20 Red Dancer.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

11.50 BADAJOZ HANDICAP
(Div I: £3,274: 6f) (10 runners)

1 6060 ROCKY WATERS 78 (C,D,F,G) G L Moore 5-9-11 ... B Rouse 6
2 0305 CRADLE DAYS 46 (F,G) R Spicer 5-9-10 ... T Ives 9
3 3554 CALL TO THE BAR 75 (F,G) M McCormack 5-9-7 ... A Clark 8
4 5060 THORNY BISHOP 92 (CD,G) J Bridger 3-9-7 ... T Williams 7
5 5000 SPENDER 10 (CD,F,G) P Harris 5-8-6 ... G Duffield 10
6 0-55 VICTORIA HALL 189 W G M Turner 4-8-6 ... J D Smith (5) 1
7 1430 WORDS OF WISDOM 17 (G) C Cyzer 4-8-2 ... D McCabe (5) 5
8 3460 AL SHAATI 106 (CD,G) R O'Sullivan 4-8-1 ... D Biggs 2
9 0-05 NEWINGTON BUTTS 59 (E) R Akehurst 4-7-12 ... J Quinn 4
10 0004 OUR SHADEE 17 (V,C,D,F) K Ivory 4-7-9 ... G Bardwell 3

3-1 Rocky Waters, 7-2 Cradle Days, 9-2 Call To The Bar, 5-1 others.

12.20 BUSACO RIDGE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,565: 1m 2f) (8 runners)

1 DESIROUS B Gubby 9-0 ... A Whelan (7) 1
2 0 ELMER'S TUNE 30 R Hannon 9-0 ... R Perham 5
3 0086 MOST WELCOME NEWS 17 (E) J Jenkins 9-0 ... C Rutter 4
4 08 SHY PADDY 19 K Cunningham-Brown 9-0 ... B Doyle 3
5 5005 STAR FIGHTER 17 W O'Gorman 9-0 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 7
6 200 JOSENO 59 B Palling 8-9 ... A Clark 2
7 0605 PENT-HOUSE BABY 17 J Spearing 8-9 ... T Ives 6
8 030 SATERNE LADY 19 P Cole 8-9 ... T Quinn 8

5-2 Star Fighter, 3-1 Shy Paddy, 7-2 Most Welcome News, 9-2 others.

12.50 VITTORIA SELLING STAKES
(£2,432: 1m 2f) (14)

1 0000 ECU DE FRANCE 61J (V,CD,G) M Madgwick 4-9-9 ... A Clark 3
2 2143 *LONG FURLONG 19 (E,D,F,G) R Akehurst 5-9-9* ... T Quinn 2
3 3000 POP TO STANS 189 (C,F) J Pearce 5-9-9 Elizabeth Turner (7) 11
4 1331 SHABANAZ 4 (D,G,S) W Muir 9-9-9 ... R Cochrane 9
5 1245 VANROY 120 (E,C,D,F,G,S) J Jenkins 10-9-9 ... S Whitworth 14
6 1320 MISTER O'GRADY 36J (V,CD,G) G L Moore 9-9-5 ... B Rouse 10
7 0205 AFTER THE LAST 15 (F,G) R Hannon 4-9-4 ... R Perham 1
8 0000 BILL MOON 15 (C,F,G) P Felden 8-9-4 ... Jo Hunnam (7) 5
9 0000 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 10 (CD,G) D Thom 5-9-4 ... D McCabe (5) 13
10 9532 FINJAN 26 (BF,F,S) A Foster 7-9-4 ... T Ives 12
11 0300 GIVE IN 10 (G,S) Miss G Kelleway 7-9-4 ... S Drowne (5) 7
12 0466 *GLENFIELD GRETA 17 (F,G) P Felgate 6-9-4* ... A Mackay 8
13 2645 RAVE-ON-HADLEY 124 (CD,BF,G) A Bailey 4-9-4 W Hawksley 6
14 0000 TAKENHALL 15 (F,G) M Fetherston-Godley 9-9-4 ... C Rutter 4

5-2 Long Furlong, 3-1 Shabanaz, 5-1 Finjan, 6-1 Pop To Stans, 8-1 others.

1.20 CHAMPAGNE JACQUART CHALLENGE HANDICAP (£2,814: 1m 5f) (15)

1 5100 SIR THOMAS BEECHAM 40 (E,CD,F,G) S Dow 4-10-0 ... A Whelan (7) 10
2 0-03 MIROSWAKI 22 P McEntee 4-8-10 ... J Quinn 5
3 0/35 CHOIR MASTER 19 (G) A Moore 7-9-2 ... Candy Morris 4
4 0240 SHAMWARI 61 (B) J Hills 3-8-13 ... A Clark 1
5 0-08 SOMMERSBY 25 A Stewart 3-8-10 ... S Whitworth 7
6 0000 *PINK BRIEF 17 (C,G) B Meehan 3-8-10* ... *B Doyle* 8
7 6600 ELA MAN HOWA 21J (E,F) R Akehurst 3-8-9 ... T Quinn 15
8 4100 TRES CHER 17 (B,BF,F) B Hills 3-8-8 ... R Cochrane 11
9 4250 DANCING DIAMOND 229 (H,C,G) Miss B Sanders 4-8-8 ... S Sanders (5) 9
10 6342 RED DANCER 15 (B,G) M Bell 3-8-7 ... G Duffield 3
11 1314 ROSE OF GLENN 17 (C,F,G) B Palling 3-8-6 ... C Rutter 13
12 -000 LORD GLENVARA 31J (G) R O'Sullivan 6-8-5 ... D Biggs 14
13 5060 BRONZE MAQUETTE 38 (B) B McMath 4-8-3 D McCabe (5) 12
14 0205 DANIELLE HABIBI 23 C C Elsey 3-7-10 ... Dale Gibson 2
15 5006 CRISTAL SPRINGS 10 B McMath 3-7-7 ... G Bardwell 6

3-1 Red Dancer, 7-1 Miroswaki, Pink Brief, 8-1 Tres Cher, 10-1 others.

1.55 ANDREW KEENAN & CO NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £3,393: 6f) (11)

1 3211 FIRST CRUSH 120 (D,F) M Prescott 9-7 ... G Duffield 9
2 0320 SOLO PRIZE 35 (B,S) P Howling 9-6 ... J Quinn 4
3 4600 THEROS 21 R Hannon 9-1 ... R Perham 10
4 1600 WITNEY-DE-BERGERAC 130 (S) J Moore 8-12 ... A Clark 11
5 1551 FAIRY FAY 17 (CD,G) B McMath 8-11 ... R Cochrane 2
6 3010 CRYSTAL LOOP 10 (D,G) A Bailey 8-8 ... D Wright (5) 1
7 0502 ROBO MAGIC 17 A Moore 8-7 ... A Whelan (7) 3
8 5030 RED SPECTACLE 37 P Haslam 8-5 ... Dale Gibson 6
9 0052 BON SECRET 15 T Naughton 8-3 ... B Doyle 7
10 0600 BILLS PLOUGHGIRL 19 J Moore 7-7 ... N Varley (5) 5
11 0000 PLUCKY PET 40 C Benstead 7-7 ... G Bardwell 8

3-1 First Crush, 4-1 Fairy Fay, 7-1 Theros, Robo Magic, 8-1 Solo Prize, Bon Secret, Witney-De-Bergerac, 10-1 others.

2.25 BADAJOZ HANDICAP
(Div II: £3,274: 6f) (10)

1 6023 ROCKETEER 14 (B,CD,G) W Muir 3-10-0 ... S McCarthy (7) 7
2 0000 DARK EYED LADY 14 (D,F,G,S) D Arbuthnot 4-9-3 ... S Whitworth 5
3 0200 RAMBOLD 39 (CD,F,G) T Jones 3-9-2 ... R Perham 8
4 0001 SILENT EXPRESSION 15 (C,D,F,G) B Meehan 4-8-12 ... R Cochrane 10
5 0316 *LA PETITE FUSEE 39 (CD,G,S) R O'Sullivan 3-8-8* ... A Clark 6
6 0430 FORGOTTEN DANCER 40 (D,S) R Ingram 3-8-7 ... W Woods 9
7 6003 FORMIDABLE LIZ 33 (D,F) K Burke 4-8-6 ... Dale Gibson 4
8 0360 BORN TO BE 15 (C,F,G) S Dow 5-8-2 ... J Quinn 1
9 5503 CIRCUS LODGE 74 J Toller 3-8-1 ... T Williams 2
10 4202 SAXON KING 17 M Usher 4-7-8 ... R Street 3

3-1 Rocketeer, 4-1 Silent Expression, 6-1 Formidable Liz, 7-1 Dark Eyed Lady, 8-1 La Petite Fusee, Circus Lodge, 10-1 Rambold, 12-1 others.

2.55 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (Qualifier: Div I: £3,304: 1m) (12)

1 0051 MULLITOVER 10 (G,S) M Heaton-Ellis 4-10-0 ... W Woods 4
2 4301 MR NEVERMIND 17 (C,F,G) G L Moore 4-9-12 ... B Rouse 7
3 1006 ISLAND KNIGHT 15 (C,BF,F,G,S) M Ryan ... A Clark 11
4 5504 WORLD TRAVELLER 40 (C,G) W O'Gorman 3-9-10 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 2
5 0F08 RED VALERIAN 42 (B,D,F) K McAuliffe 3-9-9 ... J Tate (3) 6
6 0343 POLONEZ PRIMA 14 (D,F,G) J Banks 7-9-7 ... J Quinn 3
7 0644 COMANCHE COMPANION 23 (D,BF,F,G,S) T Naughton 4-9-5 ... G Duffield 8
8 0160 TRUE PRECISION 22 (F,G,S) J Bethell 4-9-4 ... R Cochrane 10
9 2113 PRESENT SITUATION 42 (D,BF,G) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-0 ... A Whelan (7) 1
10 -F00 *NO SPEECHES 17 C Cyzer 3-8-11* ... T Ives 5
11 0166 KISSAVOS 57 (C,D,F,G) C C Elsey 8-8-3 ... C Rutter 12
12 0223 SHANSI 28 (V) M Usher 3-7-9 ... R Street 9

5-1 Mullitover, 6-1 Mr Nevermind, Comanche Companion, 7-1 Polonez Prima, Present Situation, 8-1 Island Knight, 10-1 True Precision.

3.25 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (Qualifier: Div II: £3,289: 1m) (12)

1 0051 ERTLON 31 (D,F,G) C Brittain 4-9-12 ... B Doyle 12
2 0231 SOAKING 15 (C,F,G) G L Moore 4-9-10 ... B Rouse 11
3 0504 DANCING LAWYER 17 (D,F,G) B Meehan 3-9-7 ... B Doyle 8
4 1050 KINTWYN 17 (CD,G) D Laing 4-9-6 ... S Whitworth 1
5 0024 MASNUN 15 (C,F,G,S) R O'Sullivan 9-9-6 ... D Biggs 7
6 0600 ALJAZ 56 (G) D Thom 4-9-5 ... A Mackay 9
7 2402 WAVE HILL 15 (V,CD,F,G) P Hedger 5-9-3 ... R Perham 4
8 0500 NORTHERN BIRD 28 (F,G,S) B Hills 4-9-3 ... J D Smith (5) 3
9 0004 SARUM 17 (CD,F,G) C Wildman 8-8-7 ... R Cochrane 6
10 5000 PAPAGOS 17 S Dow 3-8-5 ... A Whelan (7) 2
11 *5650 SPECTACLE JIM 28 (B,G) J O'Donoghue 5-8-3* D McCabe (5) 5
12 5000 ZINBAQ 28 (CD,F,G,S) C Benstead 8-8-0 ... T Williams 10

3-1 Ertlon, 6-1 Soaking, 7-1 Wave Hill, 8-1 Masnun, Dancing Lawyer, 10-1 Northern Bird, Sarum, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Harris, 6 winners from 17 runners, 35.3%; B Hills, 23 from 71, 32.4%; M Prescott, 21 from 90, 23.3%; Lord Huntingdon, 24 from 109, 22%; W O'Gorman, 36 from 169, 21.3%; P Cole, 22 from 104, 21.2%.

JOCKEYS: Emma O'Gorman, 38 winners from 168 rides, 22.6%; G Duffield, 25 from 128, 19.5%; R Wernham, 7 from 37, 18.9%; J D Smith, 3 from 20, 15.0%; B Rouse, 19 from 135, 14.1%; B Doyle, 20 from 156, 12.8%.

WARWICK

THUNDERER
1.05 Kadastrof. 1.35 Dr Rocket. 2.05 Vasiliev. 2.35 Midnight Caller. 3.05 Night Wind. 3.35 Eskimo Nel.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

1.05 QUINTON HURDLE
(£3,626: 2m) (13 runners)

1 152- KADASTROF 165F (CD,S) R Dickin 4-11-5 ... B Powell
2 22P0 CHARCOAL BURNER 32 (D,F,S) Mrs J Retter 9-11-3 ... Mr J Culloty (7)
3 002- OLYMPIAN 236 (CD,F,G) R Simpson 7-11-0 ... D Gallagher
4 26-P MOORISH 36 (D,S) J White 4-10-12 ... J Railton
5 510/ AL ASOOF 1358 (D,F,G,S) P Hedger 9-10-9 ... M Richards
6 42 BARRYBEN 8 W Brisbourne 5-10-9 ... S Wynne (3)
7 *-0P0 COMSTOCK 7 (D,G) J White 7-10-9* ... M Hourigan
8 0-RP DEE EM AITCH 11 C Hemsley 5-10-9 ... R Williamson (7)
9 /52- ONEUPMANSHIP 357 (D,G,S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 9-10-9 ... R Greene
10 -33P RODEO STAR 4 (D,F,G,S) N Tinkler 8-10-9 ... E Husband (5)
11 20-0 COURTOWN BOY 23 (G) D O'Neill 4-10-7 ... V Slattery
12 140/ LA RAPTOTTE 735 (D,F,G) M Charles 7-10-4 ... Jody Davies (7)
13 414- WINNIE THE WITCH 203 (CD,F,G,S) K Bridgwater 10-10-4 ... W Marston

5-2 Kadastrof, 7-2 Moorish, 9-2 Olympian, 7-1 Rodeo Star, 10-1 others.

1.35 BRANDON HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,822: 2m) (5)

1 56-P BILLY BATHGATE 42 (D,BF,F,G,S) N Henderson 8-12-0 ... J R Kavanagh
2 P-46 YOUNG POKEY 28 (D,F,G) O Sherwood 9-11-11 J A McCarthy
3 344- SPACE FAIR 175 (D,F,G,S) S Christian 11-11-8 ... G Upton
4 *4521 DR ROCKET 7 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 9-10-0* ... R Bellamy
5 U213 SHREWD JOHN 21 (CD,BF,G) R Woodhouse 8-10-0 D Gallagher

5-4 Young Pokey, 5-2 Billy Bathgate, 5-1 Dr Rocket, 6-1 Space Fair, 8-1 Shrewd John.

2.05 WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,678: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1 33-3 CRYSTAL BEAR 9 (D,F,S) T Forster 9-11-10 ... B Powell
2 52-0 CASTLE SECRET 21 (D,F) D Burchell 8-10-13 ... D J Burchell
3 -521 VASILIEV 12 (B,D,F,S) S Gollings 6-10-4 ... W Marston
4 053- EMPIRE BLUE 224 (G) J Bosley 11-10-2 ... M Bosley
5 *0028 GIORDANO 14 (V,S) P Evans 4-10-1* ... *F Leahy (5)*
6 52-4 HIGH GRADE 10 (D,G,S) Miss S Wilton 6-10-0 ... T Eley (3)
7 0-54 MASTER BOSTON 18 (D,G,S) R Woodhouse 6-10-0 D Gallagher

6-4 Vasiliev, 2-1 Crystal Bear, 7-1 Empire Blue, High Grade, 8-1 Castle Secret, 12-1 Master Boston, 14-1 Giordano

2.35 TILTYARD BRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,952: 3m 2f) (9)

1 510- CATCH THE CROSS 217 (B,C,D,F,G,S) K Morgan 8-11-10 ... A S Smith
2 P1-1 MIDNIGHT CALLER 17 (D,S) S Sherwood 8-11-9 M Richards
3 02-2 KENTISH PIPER 17 (C,F,G,S) N Gaselee 9-11-8 ... B Powell
4 1-5F INDIAN TONIC 7 (BF,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-1 T Jenks (3)
5 21P- GLENBROOK D'OR 236 (CD,G,S) A J Wilson 10-10-13 B Clifford
6 -D14 WILLSFORD 11 (CD,BF,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 11-10-11 W Marston
7 -P03 FIDDLERS PIKE 8 (C,S) Mrs R Henderson 13-10-7 ... Mrs R Henderson
8 11P- SALLY'S GEM 214 (B,D,G,S) J White 9-10-6 ... J Railton
9 *221- MASTER JOLSON 281 (F,G) D Nicholson 6-10-6* G Hogan (5)

9-4 Indian Tonic, 5-2 Midnight Caller, 7-2 Kentish Piper, 6-1 Glenbrook d'Or, 8-1 Catch The Cross, 10-1 Willsford, 14-1 others.

3.05 TOWER NOVICES CHASE (£3,600: 2m) (7)

1 -12U EASTHORPE 14 (D,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 6-11-11 ... R Farrant
2 24-1 NIGHT WIND 29 (D,G,S) S Sherwood 7-11-11 ... M Richards
3 22-0 EVEN BLUE 23 Mrs C Black 6-11-5 ... D McCain (5)
4 256- KONVEKTA KING 220 (F,S) D Nicholson 6-11-5 ... W Marston
5 565- TILT TECH FLYER 192 (S) C Broad 9-11-5 ... I Lawrence
6 6002 TUROLDUS 24 P Dalton 9-11-5 ... A P McCoy (5)
7 R222 CAMITROV 38 S Christian 4-10-7 ... G Upton

Evens Night Wind, 4-1 Easthorpe, 9-2 Camitrov, 7-1 Konvekta King, 10-1 Turoldus, 16-1 Even Blue, 25-1 Tilt Tech Flyer

3.35 UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,355: 2m) (15)

1 335/ SIZZLING AFFAIR 729 M Wilkinson 5-11-10 ... P Ward (7)
2 63-4 TIGER SHOOT 18 D Thom 7-11-7 ... N Mann
3 6U2- LE BARON PERCHE 233F C James 5-11-2 ... J R Kavanagh
4 2-10 GYMCRAK TIGER 18 (D,G) G Holmes 4-11-1 ... W Marston
5 -F03 ZAYAN 10 D Gandolfo 4-10-12 ... M Richards
6 RP6- THE MINE CAPTAIN 180 (G) C Benstead 7-10-10 ... R Farrant
7 11P5 CARAGH BRIDGE 31 (G) J O'Shea 7-10-9 ... F Leahy (5)
8 5514 STRIKE-A-POSE 21 (D,S) B Llewellyn 4-10-8 ... Mr J L Llewellyn (5)
9 F243 ESKIMO NEL 11 J Spearing 3-10-7 ... A P McCoy (5)
10 -50P FLIGHT OF SONG 10 P Murphy 7-10-6 ... E Murphy
11 0332 SALISONG 8 J White 5-10-3 ... M Hourigan
12 0P-4 IT'S DELICIOUS 10 Mrs T Pilkington 8-10-1 ... G Hogan (5)
13 0-PP MONAZITE 14 (B) J McConnochie 4-10-0 ... E Tolhurst (7)
14 30-0 FERRUFINO 9 P Rich 6-10-0 ... P McDermott
15 40-0 RAVENSPUR 46F Mrs F Owen 4-10-0 ... S Wynne (3)

9-2 Zayan, 6-1 Strike-A-Pose, Le Baron Perche, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Gaselee, 8 winners from 31 runners, 25.8%; D Nicholson, 22 from 87, 25.3%; Mrs J Retter, 3 from 13, 23.1%; N Henderson, 11 from 50, 22.0%; S Christian, 5 from 24, 20.8%; Miss H Knight, 4 from 25, 16.0%.

JOCKEYS: J R Kavanagh, 3 winners from 12 rides, 25.0%; E Murphy, 3 from 16, 18.8%; W Marston, 6 from 55, 10.9%; D Gallagher, 3 from 29, 10.3%. Only qualifiers.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER
7.00 Hillzah. 7.30 Arc Lamp. 8.00 Out On A Promise. 8.30 Brisas. 9.00 Reponist. 9.30 Battle Colours.
Our Newmarket Correspondent:
8.00 OUT ON A PROMISE (nap).

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

7.00 MANHATTAN HANDICAP
(£2,814: 1m 4f) (12 runners)

1 1120 HOLY WANDERER (CD) D Arbuthnot 5-10-0 ... S Whitworth 7
2 2100 HILLZAH (CD) R Bastiman 6-10-0 ... H Bastiman (5) 9
3 3635 CHIEF OF STAFF (D) J Pearce 5-9-12 ... J McLaughlin 10
4 5000 MAD MILITANT (CD) R Hollinshead 5-9-9 ... T Ives 1
5 1420 MEANT TO BE (D,BF) Lady Herries 4-9-9 Shona Crombie (7) 8
6 3606 STAR RAGE (CD) M Johnston 4-9-8 ... Oliver Casey (7) 5
7 1606 MENTALASANYTHIN (C,D) A Bailey 5-9-7 ... A Mackay 12
8 4004 KERKURA (D) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-6 ... A Clark 2
9 0230 MIDYAN BLUE J Eustace 4-9-1 ... J Tate (3) 11
10 0030 PHILGUN (V,D) C W C Elsey 5-8-11 ... N Kennedy 4
11 *1312 NEW INN (C,D,BF) E Weymes 3-8-7* ... J Stack (5) 6
12 4534 PREMIER DANCE (CD) D Haydn Jones 7-8-5 ... S Drowne (5) 3

3-1 Star Rage, 7-2 New Inn, 6-1 Kerkura, 7-1 Holy Wanderer, 10-1 others.

7.30 *TEQUILA SUNRISE APPRENTICE HANDICAP*
(£2,398: 5f) (13)

1 3500 SHADOW JURY (D) D Chapman 4-10-0 ... G Strange 12
2 5060 PALEY PRINCE (D) M Usher 8-10-0 ... C Adamson 11
3 5830 ZILZILAH N Littmoden 3-9-13 ... Aimee Cook (5) 7
4 3222 HICKORY BLUE (B) J Glover 4-9-13 ... S Richardson (5) 13
5 3506 FARNDALE (CD) J Berry 7-9-12 ... P Fessey (3) 9
6 0000 KALAR (B,D) D Chapman 5-9-12 ... C Teague 6
7 0001 ARC LAMP (CD) J Glover 8-9-6 ... L Suthern (5) 4
8 3324 BONNY MELODY P Evans 3-9-5 ... D Denby (5) 10
9 0005 NINEACRES (D) D Nicholls 3-9-5 ... A Eddery (5) 3
10 4145 SCORED AGAIN (D) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-4 ... Amanda Sanders (5) 2
11 2040 TROMING (D) A Jones 8-9-4 ... S Lanigan 5
12 0005 VILLAGE GREEN (B,D) K Cunningham-Brown 4-9-2 ... Martin Dwyer 6
13 *0505 LADY SHERIFF (B,D) M W Easterby 3-8-12* Oliver Casey (3) 1

3-1 Hickory Blue, 5-1 Scored Again, 6-1 Arc Lamp, 7-1 Farndale, 8-1 others.

8.00 BLUE MOON MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,892: 7f) (12)

1 00 BARBASH P Evans 9-0 ... J Stack (5) 1
2 0 BOLD EFFORT K Cunningham-Brown 9-0 ... B Doyle 12
3 MEZZORAMIO M Prescott 9-0 ... R Perham 6
4 32 OUT ON A PROMISE (BF) G Wragg 9-0 ... W Woods 10
5 POSTED ABROAD M Prescott 9-0 ... G Duffield 11
6 00 SERIOUS FACT M Prescott 9-0 ... C Nutter 9
7 4 WINTERBOTTOM (BF) R Charlton 9-0 ... R Cochrane 5
8 000 BRETTON PRINCESS R Hollinshead 8-9 ... T Ives 4
9 LAUREATE D Haydn Jones 8-9 ... A Mackay 7
10 00 MAGICAL TOUCH (E) R Flower 8-9 ... S Drowne (5) 6
11 0 MARONETTA M Ryan 8-9 ... D Biggs 2
12 5000 SHARP TERN B Smart 8-9 ... C Rutter 3

5-4 Out On A Promise, 3-1 Winterbottom, 8-1 Barbash, 10-1 others.

8.30 PINA COLADA LIMITED STAKES
(£2,648: 6f) (13)

1 6300 BRISAS (V,C,D) C Fairhurst 7-9-3 ... J Stack (5) 9
2 5050 PALACEGATE GOLD (D) R Hodges 5-9-3 ... S Drowne (5) 4
3 6062 SHARP IMP (B) R Flower 4-9-3 ... J D Smith (5) 7
4 -010 GRANDEE (D) B McMahon 3-9-2 ... S Sanders (5) 11
5 *2000 BALLYHAYS J A Harris 5-9-0* ... *S D Williams* 12
6 0000 DAANIERA (B,D) P Howling 4-9-0 ... A Mackay 5
7 0054 OLIFANTSFONTEIN (D) D Nicholls 6-9-0 ... Alex Greaves 6
8 3005 BEE DEE BEST J Smith 3-8-13 ... S Webster 1
9 5600 BOLD ARISTOCRAT R Hollinshead 3-8-13 ... R Cochrane 3
10 0005 EWAR GOLD (D) K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-12 ... B Doyle 8
11 1300 ANGELIC DANCER (B,D) S Bowring 3-8-11 ... Dale Gibson 2
12 0055 CHARLIES DREAM (C) K Burke 3-8-11 ... J Quinn 13
13 0600 HEATHYARDS LADY R Hollinshead 3-8-11 ... T Ives 10

3-1 Angelic Dancer, 5-1 Olifantsfontein, 6-1 Palacegate Gold, 7-1 Sharp Imp, 8-1 Brisas, 10-1 Ewar Gold, 12-1 Charlies Dream, 14-1 others.

9.00 BUCK'S FIZZ SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,190: 6f) (13)

1 5006 CASPER'S RISK (B) D Nicholls 9-2 ... Alex Greaves 6
2 0500 PRINCE RUDOLF (B,D) N Littmoden 9-2 ... A Clark 12
3 0000 SAXON HEIR (B) M Usher 9-2 ... M Wigham 5
4 4604 LADY PUI (BF) J Berry 8-11 ... S D Williams 3
5 0000 MR SLICK N Callaghan 8-11 ... G Duffield 8
6 0006 PRECIOUS TIMES M Meagher 8-11 ... J Quinn 8
7 0600 SHARP SHOWER (B) B McMahon 8-11 ... S Sanders (5) 2
8 3000 TWO CHALK P Evans 8-11 ... J Stack (5) 10
9 0003 WATER BEBE G Bravery 8-11 ... T Ives 4
10 0006 CRANBROOK KATE J Mackie 8-6 ... A Mackay 13
11 0030 LAWNSWOOD LADY R Hollinshead 8-6 ... [illegible] 1
12 *ONE FOR JEANNIE A Bailey 8-6* ... *D Wright (5)* 7
13 0440 REPONIST (B) M Camacho 8-6 ... R Cochrane 11

5-2 Lady Pui, 3-1 Water Bebe, 7-1 Reponist, 8-1 Casper's Risk, 10-1 Mr Slick, 12-1 Precious Times, Saxon Heir, 14-1 others.

9.30 BLACK RUSSIAN HANDICAP
(£2,905: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 5062 MAJBOOR (D) B McMahon 5-10-0 ... S Sanders (5) 1
2 5000 TU OPES (D) J L Harris 3-9-13 ... Dale Gibson 9
3 4602 AITCH N'BEE (D) Lady Herries 11-9-13 ... Shona Crombie (7) 5
4 5000 SHUTTLECOCK (CD) N Littmoden 3-9-12 ... A Clark 8
5 6531 BATTLE COLOURS (D) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-11 S D Williams 4
6 6224 QUEENS STROLLER C C Elsey 3-9-10 ... J Quinn 10
7 4300 PORT SUNLIGHT (D) P Evans 6-9-6 ... J Stack (5) 12
8 *4124 SANDMOOR DENIM (D,BF) S Bowring 7-9-6* ... G Strange (7) 7
9 0-56 BLUSHINGBIRD Lord Huntingdon 3-9-2 ... T Ives 13
10 0002 SPRING LOADED (D) J O'Shea 3-9-0 ... V Slattery 3
11 0000 LOMBARD SHIPS (B,D) A Bailey 7-8-12 ... A Mackay 11
12 6511 LEVEL EDGE (D) M Johnston 3-8-12 ... Oliver Casey (7) 6
13 2260 GUESSTIMATION (D) J Pearce 5-8-11 ... G Bardwell 2

3-1 Aitch N'Bee, 4-1 Battle Colours, 5-1 Queens Stroller, 6-1 Level Edge, 10-1 Majboor, Sandmoor Denim, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Johnston, 17 winners from 45 runners, 37.8%; M Prescott, 9 from 26, 34.6%; R Bastiman, 3 from 9, 33.3%; Lord Huntingdon, 12 from 45, 26.7%; J Glover, 4 from 16, 25.0%; J Pearce, 3 from 16, 18.8%.

JOCKEYS: H Bastiman, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; G Duffield, 8 from 31, 25.8%; J Tate, 3 from 14, 21.4%; R Cochrane, 5 from 24, 20.8%; S D Williams, 5 from 37, 13.5%; G Bardwell, 6 from 47, 12.8%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Newbury
Going: good to soft (soft in back straight)

12.55 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, BRAVE TORNADO (B Clifford, 3-1); 2, Jaraab (P Hide, 33-1); 3, Pride Of May (G McCourt, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Lombardic (5th), 15-2 Folly Finnesse (4th), 12 Chez Catalan, 16 Injunction (6th), Java Shrine, 20 Mes Gruntled, 66 Calvaro, *Colin's Pride*. 11 ran. NR: Ryan Gage. 4l, 10l, 3½l, 2½l, 7l. G Balding at Fyfield. Tote: £5.70; £1.60, £5.20, £1.40. DF: £112.60. Trio: £185.60. CSF: £77.99.

1.30 (3m ch) 1, ROSE KING (P Hide, 8-1); 2, *Stay Mischief* (D Bridgwater, 9-1); 3, Stoney Burke (C Maude, 16-1). *ALSO RAN:* 5-4 fav Corner Boy (4th), 4 Greenhil Tare Away (f), 5 A N C Express (5th), 10 Mr Mulligan (f), 20 Camden Lanes (6th), 100 Fly Guard (ur). 9 ran. 1½l, 4l, 1½l, 5l, 20l. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £7.50; £1.80, £2.00, £3.00. DF: £22.60. Trio: £89.10. CSF: £71.99.

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, AUBURN CASTLE (J Osborne, 9-2); 2, Poors Wood (P Hide, 6-1); 3, Stalajack (P Holley, 100-30 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Merros Mill, 5 Rusty Reel (pu), 14 *Rossgill (5th)*, *Royal Print*, 20 Mister Drum (4th), 25 Cardinal Red (6th), 33 Galaxy High, Manners Mirror. 11 ran. Nk, 14l, 7l, 20l, 3l. O Sherwood at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £5.20; £2.20, £2.20, £1.70. DF: £19.60. Trio: £29.20. CSF: £29.39. Tricast: £90.82.

2.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, KATABATIC (S McNeill, 9-2); 2, Whispering Steel (N Williamson, 11-8). ALSO RAN: 6-5 fav Coonawara (f). 3 ran. Dist. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £3.20. DF: £3.40. CSF: £9.29.

3.00 (2m 5f hdle) 1, *CACHE FLEUR* (P Hide, 5-1); 2, *Fair Brother* (R Davis, 9-2); 3, Lansdowne (G Tormey, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Puritan (6th), 4 Hawaiian Youth, 7 Fired Earth, 16 Tarkovsky (4th), 20 Forest Feather (5th). 8 ran. 2l, 10l, 3½l, nk, 1½l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £5.50; £2.10, £2.00, £1.10. DF: £13.20. CSF: £26.44. Tricast: £99.01.

3.30 (2m 5f hdle) 1, FEEL THE POWER (N Williamson, Evens fav); 2, Prime Of Life (S McNeill, 9-1); 3, Sweetly Disposed (M A Fitzgerald, 33-1). *ALSO RAN:* 15-8 Strong Grove, 20 Doc Cottrill (pu), 25 Hazy Rose (8th), Tilty (pu), 33 Badawi (ur), Jymjam Johnny (5th), Nupdown Boy, Quarry House (4th), Rashleigh Arms, Rifle (pu), 50 Boumel (pu). 14 ran. NR: Nathan Lad. 3½l, 6l, 3½l, 5l, 20l. K Bailey at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £2.10; £1.40, £2.00, £5.30. DF: £9.30. Trio: £113.80. CSF: £11.83.

Jackpot: £12,537.10.
Placepot: £220.40. Quadpot: £35.50.

Bangor
Going: soft (heavy in places)

12.50 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Minster's Madam (D Gallagher, Evens fav); 2, Rinus Major (8-1); 3, *Caldervale (20-1)*. 7 ran. 3l, 1¾l. R Simpson. Tote: £2.30; £1.20, £3.90. DF: £8.00. CSF: £8.94.

1.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Douslago (R Dunwoody, 3-1); 2, Cregg Boreen (Evens fav); 3, Radeka (12-1). 5 ran. NR: Young Parson. 13l, dist. *M Pipe. Tote: £2.80*; £1.30, £1.60. DF: £4.80. CSF: £6.08.

1.50 (3m hdle) 1, Keano (M Dwyer, 7-2); 2, Challenger Du Luc (10-11 fav); 3, Miss Nosey Oats (7-1). 6 ran. NR: Mason Dixon. 1¾l, 4l. P *Hobbs. Tote: £4.50*; £2.10, £1.10. DF: £3.20. CSF: £8.69.

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Greenhill Raffles (R Dunwoody, 4-6 fav); 2, Nevada Gold (7-4); 3, Fast Cruise (7-1). 3 ran. 2½l, *dist*. P Hobbs. Tote: £1.40. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.07.

2.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, *Leinthall Princess* (D Gallagher, 25-1); 2, Martell Boy (2-1); 3, Di Moda (40-1). Brave Buccaneer 5-4 fav (f). 7 ran. 13l, 6l. J Needham. Tote: £62.10; £4.70, £1.50. DF: £16.70. CSF: £67.60.

3.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Juno Away (T Wall, 33-1); 2, G'ime A Buzz (14-1); 3, Buckhouse Boy (12-1). Minty's Folly 6-5 fav. 8 ran. 5l, 3l. K White. Tote: £34.20; £4.10, £1.10, £1.60. DF: £171.60. CSF: £337.03.
Placepot: £761.80. Quadpot: £11.80.

Southwell
Going: soft

12.40 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Luke Akura (Diane Clay, 4-1 *fav*); 2, *Omidjoy (6-1)*; 3, Kemals Delight (9-2). 10 ran. 9l, 2l. W Clay. Tote: £3.30; £1.70, £1.60, £1.20. DF: £6.50. CSF: £26.62.

1.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Laplaffe (Mr D Parker, 2-1); 2, Tuns Hill (20-1); 3, Opal's Tenspot (10-1). Picketstone 11-8 fav. 5 ran. 20l, nk. A Harrison. Tote: £2.60; £1.70, £6.20. DF: £62.70. CSF: £23.54.

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, Rectory Garden (R Farrant, 3-1); 2, Exemplar (5-4 fav); 3, Topsawyer *(9-2). 6 ran.* 3l, 13l. T Forster. Tote: £3.70; £1.40, £1.20. DF: £2.20. CSF: £7.08.

2.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Mobile Messenger (D Bentley, 11-4); 2, Nazzaro (6-4 fav). 4 ran. 2l. T George. Tote: £3.20. DF: £2.90. CSF: £6.57. Only 2 finished.

2.40 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Master Of The Rock (G Lee, 3-1); 2, Tristan's Comet (7-4 fav); 3, Far Out (20-1). 7 ran. 7l, 3l. J Mackie. Tote: £2.80; £1.60, £2.50. DF: £5.70. CSF: £9.85.

3.10 (2m ch) 1, Bottles (S Keightley, 2-9 fav); 2, Cheeka (20-1); 3, Glossy (12-1). 5 ran. ½l, 1¼l. J Banks. Tote: £1.20; £1.20, £2.00. DF: £16.50. CSF: £5.80.

3.40 (2m flat) 1, Mandicat (E Callaghan, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Sharp Perm (14-1); 3, Pariah (9-2). High Learie 7-2 jt-fav. 16 ran. 6l, 1½l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £6.00; £1.90, £16.40, £2.10. DF: £73.00. CSF: £55.17.

Placepot: £16.20. Quadpot: £24.60.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Douce arrives at cycling crossroads

STEVE Douce, with nine national cyclo-cross titles to his credit in a racing career that started at the age of 11 and spans 20 years, defends his Greater London international title on his "home" course at Addington Hills, Surrey, tomorrow, but is starting a second season without sponsorship.

"The last two years have been hard," he said, "and I have had to start drawing on financial reserves built up before sponsors began to pull in their horns." Douce, with five victories this winter, intends to see the cyclo-cross season out, with his main targets the national championship at Sutton Park, near Birmingham, on January 8, and the world title event in Switzerland on January 29.

After that Douce will make a firm decision about his racing future: to continue in the sport — he is a more than useful team colleague in road races, especially when the going is hard — or lower his targets and ride more for fun than success.

Wales keep record intact

RUGBY UNION: Wales Under-21 showed a lack of cohesion when beating Romania Under-21 20-8 at the Brewery Field, Brigend yesterday. Steve Williams, the Wales coach, said afterwards: "We are capable of much better, but the win has kept our good record intact.

A first-half try from Gareth Thomas, the Bridgend wing, and penalty from Lyndon Griffiths, of Swansea, gave Wales an 8-0 lead. The Swansea hooker, Marcus Thomas, added a second-half try before Romania responded with a try and penalty. But Patrick Horgan, the Aberavon scrum half, sealed victory with a try that Griffiths converted.

Advocaat steps down



FOOTBALL: Dick Advocaat, right, will relinquish his position as the coach of Holland in January to take charge of PSV Eindhoven. Advocaat, who has agreed a contract running to the end of the 1996-97 season with PSV, will be replaced by Guus Hiddink, the Dutch football federation said. Advocaat's last international will be at home to Luxembourg on December 14.

Korea snatch title

RUGBY UNION: Korea, playing some scintillating rugby on their debut in the Dubai Sevens, won the Emirates International Trophy with a dramatic one-point victory over the Bahrain Warblers yesterday, scoring the winning try on the stroke of time. The Koreans, backed by a vociferous crowd, deserved their 27-26 win over opponents who matched their swifter opponents try for try until the last minute. Former champions, Crawshays, an invitational side from Wales who were knocked out on Thursday, won the plate competition by beating Romania 31-24.

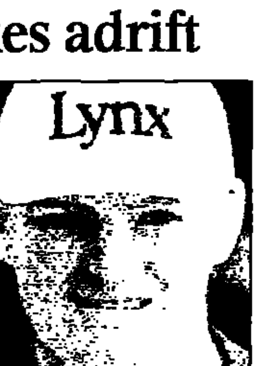
Women relegated

TENNIS: Britain were relegated from the first division of the European women's team championship at Aachen, Germany, yesterday for the first time since the competition began in 1986. Clare Wood, Shirli-Ann Siddall and Julie Pullin followed the 2-1 defeat by Italy on Thursday with a 3-0 drubbing by Belgium. Pullin was overwhelmed 6-0, 6-2 by Els Callens, while Wood was similarly dismissed 6-1, 6-1 by Laurence Courtois. Wood and Siddall were then beaten 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 by Callens and Nancy Feber. Only two years ago, Wood and Siddall, with Jo Durie, won the championship.

Krieg takes limelight

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Dave Krieg overshadowed running back, Barry Sanders, and Buffalo's Jim Kelly to lead Detroit Lions to a 35-21 victory in the traditional Thanksgiving Day match. Krieg passed for 351 yards, completing 20 out of 25 passes, to set up three touchdowns and help the Lions to stay in contention for an NFC play-off spot. Kelly threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score for the Bills, but threw two costly interceptions to Willie Clay, who returned the second one 28 yards for the decisive touchdown with just over a minute remaining.

Els four strokes adrift



GOLF: Ernie Els, right, the US Open and World Match Play champion, was still four shots behind the leader, Hendrik Buhrmann, a fellow South African, despite a second round of 66 at the Wild Coast Classic in Port Edward, South Africa, yesterday. Els, the pre-tournament favourite, had a 36-hole total of 135. Buhrmann added a 67 to his opening 64. Mark McNulty, of Zimbabwe, was on 136.

S Africa to host finals

FOOTBALL: South Africa will host the 1996 African nations' cup finals after the original hosts, Kenya, withdrew from staging the continent's leading competition. South African football authorities said yesterday. Stix Morewa, the executive president of the South African Football Association, said Kenya had withdrawn for financial reasons, and that the tournament would go automatically to South Africa, the reserve hosts. The new host country, unbeaten in group five of the qualifying competition, is now guaranteed a place in the finals.

Americans head east

ICE HOCKEY: A National Hockey League (NHL) squad, led by Wayne Gretzky, will visit Scandinavia next week as the Americans wait for the NHL strike to come to an end. The NHL lockout has kept players and club owners in dispute over money, nearly two months after the season should have started. Gretzky said that the NHL team would play two matches in Finland — against Jokerit, the national champions, in Tampere on December 3, and against Ilves on December 4 — while other matches are being arranged in Norway and Sweden.

Di Centa delays return

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: Manuela Di Centa, of Italy, who is recovering from emergency surgery on her intestines, said yesterday that she needs to regain strength and morale before thinking of making a comeback in World Cup races. "I overcame a big scare," Di Centa, 31, who won five medals, including two golds, at the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, said. "I only want to recover strength: it may take time." Her personal doctor, Francesco Conconi, said that Di Centa could resume training in about two weeks. She underwent surgery on Tuesday.

South Africans in dominant form

Weakened Wales hold little hope of historic victory

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WELSH hopes of an historic first victory over South Africa at Cardiff Arms Park today would only have suffered had they been exposed to Joost van der Westhuizen, just an hour after the five-try dismissal of Scotland a week ago. "We can improve, we must forget that game now and start again in readiness for Wales," van der Westhuizen, the Northern Transvaal scrum half, said.

Forget the admitted highlight of his career? Simply dismiss as emphatic a victory as any South Africa have enjoyed all year? Yet this is the new South Africa, grown wise in the ways of international rugby with remarkable rapidity; whatever inflated claims their own supporters may make for them, the players know the reality.

"We don't consider ourselves favourites against Wales," Francois Pienaar, their captain, said yesterday. "We are approaching the game exactly the same as we would if we were playing the Australians or the New Zealanders." Oh, would that Wales could genuinely consider themselves to be of that ilk, but, for all their relative successes this year, they are not.

Five nations' champions, ultimately comfortable qualifiers for the World Cup next year admittedly, but going into the international today, they are dramatically weakened by the loss of Ieuan Evans, their captain, Nigel Davies, Mike Rayer and Nigel Walker through injuries and the continued drain to rugby league.

Alan Davies, their coach, has recalled the events of last February when they went in as underdogs against France and won handsomely, but he is whistling against a burgeoning southern-hemisphere wind.

Van der Westhuizen may be taken as a model for an aspiring team, strong and becoming stronger. Ten times he has occupied the replacements' bench and he would have come on this tour as second-choice scrum half had not Johan Roux, of Transvaal, withdrawn in October to have a knee operation. Occasionally on tour his temper has got the better of him, but he has matured with every game and his sparkling two-try display against the Scots will have given his confidence a tremendous boost.

"I came to Britain to play the basic scrum half game: kicking — which is my main weakness — and passing," van der Westhuizen said. "People had said I was too much of an individual, maybe I am, maybe not, but I think I was playing the wrong game. In the past, I have been too quick on the ball, over-running it or knocking on. I need to stay calm and it's getting better"



Jenkins: consistent

Like André Joubert, the scrum half has gone a long way towards ridding himself of the tag of sevens specialist, without losing the elusive and pacey skills which earned that reputation. But it is his acknowledgement of the virtues required for the 15-man game which Kitch Christie, the coach, seeks which is significant and it echoes the ambitions of every other player in the team.

Arguably, Wales are in a stronger position today than were Scotland. This is their thirteenth international of the calendar year, they have almost become a "club" team, and the *esprit de corps* which the management has established will serve them well. They have also seen everything South Africa has to offer, either first-hand against club opponents or in the international last week, and prepared accordingly.

It is one thing to know your enemy, of course, another to stop him. Wales will not outmuscle the South Africans so they must find ways round or over them. They have, in Neil Jenkins, the most consistent goal-kicker in world rugby, at present, but even he must be given the opportunities and a week ago South Africa were singularly niggardly in that respect. Gavin Hastings was given only one penalty kick at goal and Didier Mené, the French referee, in his first international is unlikely to shell out penalties ad lib.

Christie outlined Welsh advantages: playing at home, a better scrum and lineout than Scotland's, good goalkicking, sound half backs and a solid midfield presence in Mike Hall. No doubt he has emphasised all these elements to his own players, but Wales have to make them work against a team bubbling with confidence and knowing that, bar a final week's frolic in Ireland, their work for the year is over.

Traditionally, Wales also boast a "street cred", distinctive from other home unions. But so many reports from their domestic rugby this season suggest even that has dwindled and all too easily the memory may stray to the powerful men in green who ran in try after try against Swansea, who outplayed a disappointing Llanelli and had just enough wit to sneak past Cardiff (van der Westhuizen again), Neath and Pontypridd.

"The odds against us are something like the traditional odds when England come here to play us and the players can relate their attitude to that," Davies, the coach, said. England have won only once in Cardiff in the last 30 years: then again, Wales have never beaten South Africa in seven attempts and today that situation is unlikely to change.

PAST RESULTS: 1906: Wales 0 South Africa 11 (Swansea), 1912: Wales 0 South Africa 3 (Cardiff), 1931: Wales 3 South Africa 8 (Swansea); 1951: Wales 3 South Africa 6 (Cardiff); 1960: Wales 0 South Africa 3 (Cardiff); 1964: South Africa 24 Wales 3 (Durban), 1970: Wales 6 South Africa 6 (Cardiff).

TODAY'S TEAMS IN CARDIFF

WALES		SOUTH AFRICA
A Clement (Swansea)	15	A J Joubert (Natal)
W T Proctor (Llanelli)	14	P Hendriks (Transvaal)
M R Hall (Cardiff)	13	P G Muller (Natal)
M Taylor (Pontypool)	12	J C Mulder (Transvaal)
S D Hill (Cardiff)	11	C M Williams (Western Province)
N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)	10	H P Le Roux (Transvaal)
R H StJ B Moon (Llanelli)	9	J H van der Westhuizen (N Tvaal)
R L Evans (Llanelli)	1	J P du Randt (Orange Free State)
G R Jenkins (Swansea)	2	U L Schmidt (Transvaal)
J D Davies (Neath)	3	T G Laubscher (Western Province)
H T Taylor (Cardiff)	6	J F Pienaar (Transvaal, captain)
D Jones (Cardiff)	4	M G Andrews (Natal)
G O Llewellyn (Neath, captain)	5	P J W Schutte (Transvaal)
R G Collins (Pontypridd)	7	R J Kruger (Northern Transvaal)
S W Lewis (Cardiff)	8	R A W Straueli (Transvaal)

Referee: D Mene (France)

Replacements: 16 M Back (Bridgend), 17 A Davies (Cardiff), 18 P John (Pontypridd), 19 P T Davies (Llanelli), 20 M Griffiths (Cardiff), 21 R C McBryde (Llanelli).

Replacements: 16 K B Putt (Natal), 17 J T Stransky (Western Province), 18 G K Johnson (Transvaal), 19 J Dalton (Transvaal), 20 I S Swart (Transvaal), 21 C P Strauss (Western Province).

Jones stands tall among rugby's giants



Derwyn Jones, right, is the latest example in a growing trend towards taller and taller lineout jumpers in international rugby union

As Wales find room for a towering policeman, **John Hopkins** charts the rise and rise of the international second-row forward

Derwyn Jones does not so much get out of a chair as unfold upwards and upwards. Just when you think he is going to stop, he unfolds a little more. Finally, the unfolding ends and he looks down, rather self-consciously, and smiles. Derwyn Jones is a very tall man. Few people will have spoken to anyone taller.

At 6ft 10in, Jones is the tallest policeman in Wales, and PC 573 of the Gwent Constabulary is also the tallest man in Wales's team against South Africa this afternoon. In fact, he is the tallest man ever to play for Wales and the latest symbol of a new breed in rugby — the gigantic second-row forward.

PC Goliath crossed one telegraph pole of a leg over the other. "I was not particularly big when I was born, only about seven pounds, and though I was tall I was nothing special until my early teens," he said. "I suddenly sprang up when I was about 14. I was a bit of a podge until, one summer, I trained hard with my Dad. I lost a lot of weight and shot upwards. I must have grown three or four inches. By the time I was 17, I was 6ft 10in. I used to play basketball, but my knees started to hurt, and so I switched to rugby."

Jones, of Cardiff, who weighs 19 stone and has size 13 feet, will jump for Wales in the middle of the lineout, where the tallest men almost always do. Never in the history of rugby have there been so many big men in this position, and never has there been such a race as that now going on to unearth more, bigger men. Look down the ages and you can see how the onward and upward race has speeded up. Wavell Wakefield was six feet tall when he led England with such brio in the Twenties, an inch shorter than the tallest man in the side, Tommy Voyce. Incidentally, "Wakers" was shorter than Joop van der Westhuizen, the South Africa scrum half in Cardiff this afternoon. During the Thirties, John McD Hodgson, of England, towered over his opponents from the lofty height of 6ft 3in.

> 'Look down the ages and you can see how the onward and upward race has speeded up'

England's famous second-row pairing from 1956 until 1961 comprised David Marques and John Currie, whose names went together "as neatly as ham and eggs or Marks and Spencer", as someone wrote. Marques was 6ft 5in, two inches shorter than Martin Johnson, the smaller of England's present lock forwards. Currie was 6ft 3in, as was a rival forward, Frans ten Bos, of Scotland. Their height is put in perspective by Tim Rodber, an England back-row forward, who is three inches taller than both.

What about Colin Meads, the legendary New Zealand forward? Surely "Pine Tree", as he was nicknamed, was almost as massive as his reputation? In fact, he was barely 6ft 4in, barely four inches taller than Dewi Morris, the England scrum half. The great forwards, such as Willie-John McBride, who represented Ireland from 1961 until 1975 and captained the all-conquering British Lions side of 1974, and Delme Thomas, the spring-heeled Llanelli and Wales second-row forward, were both 6ft 3in tall.

The exception that proves the general rule was provided by Peter Stagg, a Scot, who was generally described in rugby programmes as being 6ft 7½in, though later in his career he was said to be even taller. Rugby hearsay suggests that, on a rugby tour, Stagg was once measured by some team-mates while asleep and found to be nearer 6ft 10in.

The Seventies saw the first significant spurts upward. The French unearthed Alain Esteve who, at 6ft 7in, was the tallest person to represent his country when he played between 1971 and 1975. Wade Dooley, the Blackpool Tower, was 6ft 8in, an unheard of height when he first appeared for England in 1985. Australia produced perhaps the tallest pair in Steve Cutler, 6ft 7in, and Bill Campbell, 6ft 8in, in the late Eighties. Then along came Martin Bayfield, another 6ft 10in policeman, who was first capped by England in 1991.

After little more than a steady upward climb between the Twenties and the Sixties, there has been an upward spurt of some five inches in 30 years. Why?

According to John King, the director of the academic department of sports medicine at London Hospital Medical College, there are four reasons. "The profile of rugby is getting higher and so it is attracting kids who used to go to basketball. Second, we are getting bigger, generation by generation, by a few percentage points a time. Airline seats of the Sixties would not be big enough now. Third, nutrition at an early age is better. And it is known that mothers who don't smoke have bigger babies. Fourth, it is not quite like race horses, but there is a sort of breeding going on. Look at the sons of Derek Quinnell, for example."

Heightism, then, the latest "ism" after sexism, chauvinism and malapropism, is all the rage in rugby. Earlier this month, Richard Metcalfe represented England Under-21 against Ireland Under-21. And Metcalfe is 7ft 1in.

Hide waits to see if gamble pays off

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

HERBIE Hide will learn whether his gamble on his forthcoming defence of the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) heavyweight championship against Riddick Bowe has paid off when purse offers for the contest are opened on December 4.

Hide turned down a £2 million offer from Bowe's manager, Rock Newman, which was backed by the American pay-per-view network, Home Box Office, earlier this week and decided to gamble on a bigger pay day by letting the bout, which is expected to go ahead on March 18 in Bowe's native United States, go to the purse-offer stage.

With Hide, 23, entitled to 80 per cent of the cash as a champion putting his title at stake in the challenger's home country, the move may pay off if there is competition in the bidding. Offers seem likely to be lodged by the leading American promoter, Bob Arum, Hide's manager, Barry Hearn, Newman, and, perhaps, Don King and his British partner, Frank Warren.

All interested parties will be hoping Bowe, the former World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champion, does not slip up in his next contest, against Larry Donald, of the United States, on December 3.

South-West search for international gem

BY DAVID HANDS

WHATEVER criticism the first round of the CIS divisional championship last week may have attracted, there is no doubting the carrot that dangles before the players in today's second round of the competition: the England Emerging Players XV to meet Canada on December 6 at Bath will be selected this weekend and announced on Tuesday.

If the players find the divisional concept tenuous — and events in the last two seasons have certainly conspired against it — the emerging players represent a substantial stepping-stone. "It offers far more opportunity to experiment and we will be recreating the atmosphere of an international match build-up as closely as possible to see how the players react," John Elliott, the national selector and, from next summer, the national development officer, said.

Experimentation has already taken place in the divisional championship, notably in the South-West, where the selectors have turned over their pot of talent in a manner that may provide Elliott with further insights but can only damage their hopes of retaining the championship they won last season. Six changes to the side beaten by London does not augur well for the match against the Midlands at Leicester today.

John Lockyer, the chairman of the South-West selectors, argues that by giving the greatest number of players in their squad the chance to play in the championship, they stand more chance of unearthing a potential England gem; this takes older minds back to the days of three national trials with teams changing week by week, as opposed to establishing a XV to perform in a specific competition.

That appears to be the North's attitude: having toured in the summer and agreed on what their selectors believe to be the best XV, they have stuck with it against London at Wasps tomorrow, despite defeat by the Midlands last Saturday. Their hope of restoring Paul Grayson at stand-off half has been thwarted by the Northampton player's failure to recover from injury, so they are unchanged.

"There was no sense of commitment, no urgency, no sparkle," Dick Greenwood, the North's team manager, said of his team's two-point defeat by the Midlands. Doubtless, he reasons that the same players will not perform so poorly again, while London will hope that their selection, based as it is on the Wasps side, will increase the tempo at home after doing well in the rain of Bristol.

There will be a few misty eyes at Otley, where Yorkshire, the champions, endeavour to stay in this season's county competition by defeating their old rivals from Lancashire — not that many enthusiasts turned up at Tynedale a week ago when Yorkshire were overturned by Northumberland. On this occasion, Yorkshire bring in Jim Mallinder at full back, while Gordon Throup, at hooker, and Paul Evans, at No 8, reinforce the forwards against an unbeaten and unchanged Lancashire.

DIVISIONAL TEAMS

MIDLANDS: R Angell (Coventry), S Hackney (Leicester), S Potter (Leicester), D Edwards (Leicester), H Thorneycroft (Northampton), J Harris (Leicester), A Kardooni (Leicester), R Hardwick (Coventry), R Cockerill (Leicester), D Garforth (Leicester), C Tarbuck (Leicester), R West (Gloucester), J Phillips (Northampton), G Rees (Nottingham, captain), I Skingsley (Bedford).
SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST: L Anson (Narberth), N Beal (Northampton), M Denney (Bristol), S Morris (Gloucester), P Holford (Gloucester), R Dix (Cambridge University), R Kitchin (Harlequins, captain), D Crompton (Bath), J Hawker (Gloucester), D Hinkins (Bristol), R Hill (Saracens), D Sims (Gloucester), C Yandell (Narberth), D Eves (Bristol), I Patten (Bristol).
Referee: S Lander (Liverpool)

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: A Tunningley (Saracens); S Roser (Wasps), G Childs (Wasps), N Greenstock (Wasps), D O'Leary (Harlequins); G Gregory (Wasps), S Bates (Wasps, captain); D Crompton (Wasps), G Botterman (Saracens), I Dunston (Wasps), C Shaasby (Harlequins), A Diprose (Saracens), S Shaw (Bristol), L Dallaglio (Wasps), D Ryan (Wasps).
NORTH: W Greenwood (Harlequins); J Sleightholme (Bath), P Johnson (Orrell), S Ravenscroft (Saracens), A Healey (Orrell); N Ryan (Walarloo), D Scully (Wakefield, captain); P Smith (Sale), S Mitchell (West Hartlepool), A Smith (Sale), C Vyvyan (Sale), D Baldwin (Sale), J Fowler (Sale), P Manley (Orrell), M Watson (West Hartlepool).
Referee: B Stirling (Ireland)

Munro and Rudkin take centre stage at Myreside

BY ALAN LORIMER

AT THIS stage next season, the restructured McEwan's national league will be reaching its conclusion after a virtually uninterrupted run of matches. The need for a new structure in Scottish rugby is long overdue, as the present inedible stew clearly illustrates.

Today, after a three-week gap, the McEwan's championship briefly comes back to life before returning to hibernation for seven weeks. Little wonder then if followers have difficulty remembering the championship positions when the competition resumes on January 14.

Today's matches, while important in determining which clubs will qualify for the top eight positions next season, will more immediately provide district selectors with final checks on their likely players. They will also offer the chance for players to stake their claims for places in Scotland's A team to play Italy on January 7.

Stirling County, who have dominated the championship so far, face Gala at Bridgehaugh, while Watsonians and Glasgow High/Kelvinside, who share second place, meet at Myreside. While the Scotland selectors must hope that Gavin Hastings can put in a reassuring performance for Watsonians after an unimpressive display against South Africa last week, their focus will surely be on the form of Shade Munro and Murray Rudkin, the two opposing lock forwards at Myreside.

Munro has played little rugby this season because of injury but looked eager for Combined Scottish Districts against the South Africans at Old Anniesland. In that match he was partnered at second row by Alan Watt, but today the Glasgow High/Kelvinside forward reverts to prop. Munro will have a young player of outstanding potential in Rudkin, who stands 6ft 7in, against whom to measure his progress.

Also under the selectorial gaze will be Duncan Hodge, the Watsonians and Scotland A stand-off, while in the Glasgow High/Kelvinside team Murray Wallace will be looked at closely as a possible openside foil to his brother, Fergus, in the Glasgow district side.

With what looks to be a massive advantage up front, Glasgow High/Kelvinside should start as favourites, but Watsonians have shown themselves adept at moving the ball and with both Hastings brothers capable of putting in match-winning performances it would be unwise to discount a home win.

Formula One rules to be considered

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MAX Mosley, president of the international motor sport federation (FIA), confirmed yesterday that new rules could be introduced by the governing body next season to prevent a repeat of the controversial finish to the Formula One season.

On Wednesday, the FIA had declared that Michael Schumacher would be allowed to keep his world drivers' championship after an inquiry into the Australian Grand Prix in Adelaide, when the German's Benetton cut across the path of the Williams driven by Damon Hill, of Britain. Both drivers were forced out of the final race of the season, with Schumacher taking the title by one point.

Mosley, speaking in Geneva, said the question of new regulations had not been raised solely by the crash in Adelaide, but because of similar end-of-season incidents involving Alain Prost and the late Ayrton Senna. "We've had three now, twice with Senna and Prost, and now with Hill and Schumacher, so you start to say, 'well, maybe we can do something'," Mosley said.

"It is annoying, and there is also the question of whether he did it on purpose. Even if he didn't, there is a feeling he might have, which is bad for the driver. I'm sure Schumacher wouldn't like that. I'm sure he'd have much rather beaten Hill fair and square in the race."

Mosley said the FIA had no evidence that Schumacher had deliberately forced Hill out of the race. "In the end, the right man won the championship," he said. "Schumacher is the quicker driver, so it's a just result. Maybe the route is a bit devious, but we got the right result."

Mosley said the FIA would discuss the possibility of new rules next month. The proposed changes could allow drivers to continue the race in their spare cars, or even create special run-offs between contenders if they forced each other off the track. Mosley admitted, though, that the situation would get more complicated if other drivers were involved in the crashes, or if leading drivers were forced out in earlier races.

"It's something we're looking at — there's something very unsatisfactory about what happened in Adelaide," Mosley said. "Never mind who was to blame, it's an irritating way to see the thing decided."

Schumacher's victory did not won him overwhelming support in his homeland. While the German media was quick to put Schumacher on a par with Franz Beckenbauer and Boris Becker after he secured the title, a survey by *Sports Life magazine* has indicated the opposite.

More than 75 per cent of those questioned said that Schumacher was not a role model. Only 19 per cent put him alongside Beckenbauer, the former World Cup-winning footballer.

هكذا من الاعلى

Final is wide open as Challenge reaches its climax

RAF quartet hope for soaring success

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



La Manga provides a most dramatic setting as the former footballer, Bertschin, of St Honorine Golf and Leisure, tees off on the 17th hole during practice yesterday

FROM MEL WEBB IN LA MANGA

THE Times/MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge for 1994 reaches its climax in the next two days when the elite 32 players from an original entry of nearly 40,000 battle it out in the national final.

With company honour at stake, quarter will be neither asked for nor given.

The second year of the Challenge has seen a four-fold increase in the number of companies entering the only golf competition in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland to be aimed at the business community. By the time the winners step up to receive their prizes at a gala *dinner here tomorrow night*, they will know they have been in a fierce contest.

The teams contesting the final had a practice round on La Manga's famous South course yesterday and while, for some, it undoubtedly was a benefit, to just as many others it served as little more than a reminder that form in the lives of handicapped golfers is a transient thing. Club players are never more vulnerable than when they have just completed a good round and think they have unlocked the secrets of the Royal and Ancient game.

The final is wide open — with only 11 Stableford points separating the highest and lowest scores in the regional finals, any of the eight four-man teams could easily win. If the form shown in the regional finals is to be regarded as a yardstick however, the team to watch is RAF Honington.

The RAF quartet claimed *their place at La Manga* with a solid and consistent performance in the Northern Home Counties regional final at Mentmore and, with 94 points, were three better than the nearest of their rivals here.

All serving members of the RAF, the team — SAC Jason Bartup, Cpl Tim Spurgeon, Sgt Rob Philp and Cpl Neal Pearce — went to Mentmore aiming to do no more than make sure of enjoying their day out. They were one of the first two teams out and had to endure a three-hour wait to see if their score was going to be good enough. It was — by a single point.

They have come, to Spain with the intention, again, of savouring the experience: "Of course we'd like to win, but, above everything else, we just want to make sure this is a weekend to remember," Philp said. The best way to achieve that is to win — and they could well do it.

Among their leading rivals — three teams scored 91 points in the regional finals — is Saint Honorine Golf and Leisure, winners in the Midland event at the Forest of Arden, who have among their number two former professional footballers.

Keith Bertschin, who, in a long and distinguished career, played for Ipswich Town, Birmingham City and Norwich City, plays off a handicap of 11 and Ian Hendry appeared on both sides of the border for Aston Villa, in England, and Hibernian, in Scotland. Both are examples of that rare golfing bird, the *left-hander*.

Standing on the wrong side of the ball does not, however, seem to affect the efficiency of their swings and, round the formidable Arden course, they and their team-mates, Antony O'Grady and Ray McInally, consistently gave themselves points-scoring chances.

They impressed with their competitiveness, while the professional sporting background of Bertschin and Hendry will surely help them when the competitive pressure is on.

The beauty of Stableford golf is that players of all standards can play against each other on a more or less even footing and the spread of handicaps here proves that — the highest is 28, the lowest, scratch. The finalists will play 18 holes of seven-eighths handicap today and 18 more tomorrow with the best two scores on each hole counting towards the total.

The final act of the final last *year came when a member of* the winning team kept a promise to his girlfriend that, if victorious, he would propose to her on the 18th green. As far as it is possible to tell, that is unlikely to happen this year. We shall see.

LA MANGA TEAMS

Prebon Yamane (UK) Limited
R Lough, handicap 17; D Holdsworth, 10; B Thistlethwaite, 12; J Stewart, 4.

RAF Honington
J Bartup, 18; T Spurgeon, 8; R Philp, 18; N Pearce, 8.

Boddington Pub Company
M Bradshaw, 21; G Casely, 18; P Seredyn, 12; F Lloyd, 18.

Chemical Corporation (UK) Limited
A Barham, 20; M Neil, 24; N Insley, 14; J Gladwin, 16.

Saint Honorine Golf and Leisure Limited
A O'Grady, 19; K Bertschin, 11; R McInally, 19; I Hendry, 18.

Allied Dunbar (Pennine Region)
D Lawrence, scratch; C G Peckham, 10; T Gray, 26, A Diskin, 11.

Waverley Vintners Limited
A Carmichael, 15; R Farnfield, 23; R O'Reilly, 21; K Magee, 16.

Crown Berger (NI) Limited
R Fullerton, 28, S Hill, 8; N Kearney, 17; J McGoldrick, 15.

Norman keeps in touch with leaders

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN SYDNEY

BRETT Ogle, a long, lean Australian whose golf is of the meteoric variety — it burns brightly for a while, then *crashes into oblivion* — was in blazing vein in the second round of the Heineken Australian Open championship at Royal Sydney yesterday.

A round of 68, crowned by a birdie from 15 feet at the last, gave Ogle the lead with a total of 137, seven under par, one shot ahead of his compatriot, Wayne Grady. Craig Parry, transformed by a "hip tip" from Severiano Ballesteros in Japan last week — the Spaniard showed him how to turn on the backswing rather than sway — was on 139, alongside Jeff Woodland, yet another Australian. The best of the Europeans were Peter Baker and Jean van de Velde, on 141.

However, Greg Norman felt he was lurking dangerously on level par after a round of 70 that was anything but dull. It featured seven birdies, plus a double bogey and three bogeys, but he *claimed he was swinging* well and could still win his fourth Australian Open title.

Matters other than the mere playing of the game continued to crowd in on Norman, however. There was the young amateur, overlooked by the Australian authorities, that he was being pressed to invite to his tournament, the Holden Classic, in Melbourne next week, and, of course, there was the world tour.

The US PGA Tour's policy board meets next week to discuss all the ramifications of Norman's proposals, and he indicated that they should be doing some serious talking. "There is a time frame," he said, "because the television people and the sponsors will want to have it all wrapped up in the next few weeks — by the end of *December at the latest*, I would think."

LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (Australia unless stated): 137: B Ogle 69, 68. 138: W Grady 70, 68 139: C Parry 70, 69, J Woodland 70, 69. 140: W Riley 73, 67; R Allenby 70, 70, G Norman 70, 70. 141: M Calcavecchia (US) 74, 67, P Teravainen (US) 72, 69, J van de Velde (Fr) 70, 71, P Baker (GB) 70, 71; M King 68, 73.

Briton aims to arrive as leaders prepare to depart

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN CAPE TOWN

HARRY Mitchell, the 70-year-old solo yachtsman from Portsmouth, looks set to steal the show later today when he reaches Cape Town at the end of the first leg of the BOC Challenge solo round-the-world race. If the winds remain fair, he was expected to cross the finish line just as 14 of his rivals are setting out on the second stage of the race, to Sydney, Australia.

Mitchell is expected to stay in port until Wednesday, then set out to chase after the fleet alongside Neil Petersen, of South Africa, who arrived here on Thursday.

Floyd Romack, the last of these intrepid adventurers, who lost five days at the start from Charleston, and was still more than 1,400 miles from the Cape, is now unlikely to finish before the deadline on Tuesday. To ease his disappointment, the race organisers plan to invite the American to rejoin the fleet in Uruguay for the final leg, back to America.

Alan Nebauer, of Australia, *who went to the aid of Josh* Hall, the British sailor, after his yacht had been badly holed, has been awarded 5½ hours for the rescue. Robin Davie has also been compensated for the time that he lost during the operation with an eight-hour bonus. But the changes do not affect the overall positionss.

In an effort to avoid further casualties on the next, 6,700-mile leg down into the Southern Ocean, the organisers have followed the precedent set during the Whitbread race last winter in setting a compulsory way point midway across the Indian Ocean to stop the fleet from sailing too far into the icebergs. The race leaders are expected to reach Sydney just before Christmas.

☐ The Win New Zealand syndicate yesterday unveiled its America's Cup challenger in *Auckland, and Chris Dickson*, the skipper, predicted that the yacht will be very competitive in the race, off San Diego early next year. The 75-foot Bruce Farr-designed racer will be called Tag Heuer, after the group's main sponsor.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*
Pools numbers in brackets

FA Carling Premiership
(—) Arsenal v Man Utd
(1) Blackburn v QPR
(2) Chelsea v Everton
(—) C Palace v Southampton
(3) Leeds v Nottm F
(4) *Liverpool v Tottenham
(5) Man City v Wimbledon
(—) *Newcastle v Ipswich
(6) Norwich v Leicester
(7) West Ham v Coventry

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	15	11	1	3	31	10	34
Blackburn	15	10	3	2	31	13	33
Newcastle	15	10	3	2	33	16	33
Liverpool	15	9	2	4	32	16	29
Nottm Forest	15	8	4	3	25	15	28
Chelsea	15	7	3	5	25	19	24
Leeds	15	7	3	5	23	19	24
Man City	15	6	4	5	25	25	22
Norwich	15	5	6	4	13	13	21
Southampton	15	5	5	5	23	26	20
Arsenal	15	5	4	6	18	17	19
Crystal Palace	15	5	4	6	15	18	19
Coventry	15	5	4	6	18	28	19
*Tottenham	15	5	3	7	24	30	18
Wimbledon	15	5	3	7	17	26	18
Sheff Wed	15	4	5	6	16	22	17
West Ham	15	5	2	8	9	18	17
QPR	15	4	4	7	23	27	16
Aston Villa	15	3	4	8	19	27	13
Leicester	15	3	3	9	17	27	12
Everton	15	2	5	8	11	24	11
Ipswich	15	3	1	11	14	30	10

* 6pts to be deducted at the end of the season

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
(8) Barnsley v Bolton
(—) Charlton v Middlsboro
(9) Grimsby v Burnley
(—) Notts County v West Brom
(10) Oldham v Bristol City
(11) Port Vale v Millwall
(12) Portsmth v Sundrland
(13) Reading v Tranmere
(14) Sheff Utd v Southend
(15) Swndon v Luton
(16) Watford v Stoke

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wolverhmptn	18	10	4	4	36	20	34
Middlesbrough	17	10	3	4	24	16	33
Bolton	18	8	5	5	31	21	29
Tranmere	17	8	5	4	28	20	29
Reading	17	8	4	5	20	15	28
Grimsby	18	7	6	5	25	21	27
Watford	18	7	6	5	21	22	27
Luton	18	7	5	6	26	22	26
Barnsley	17	7	5	5	18	18	26
Southend	18	7	4	7	19	29	25
Charlton	18	5	8	5	29	28	23
Sheff Utd	18	6	5	7	23	20	23
Stoke	17	6	5	6	22	24	23
Derby	18	6	5	7	20	19	23
Burnley	18	5	8	5	19	21	23
Swindon	18	6	4	8	25	29	22
Sunderland	17	4	9	4	18	16	21
Oldham	18	5	5	8	22	25	20
Port Vale	17	5	5	7	20	22	20
Millwall	18	4	7	7	23	26	19
Portsmouth	17	4	7	6	19	23	19
Bristol City	17	5	4	8	15	23	19
West Brom	18	4	6	8	16	25	18
Notts County	17	2	5	10	18	30	11

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE. Premier division. Brentwood v Maldon; Burnham Ramblers v Gt Wakering Rov; Concord Rang v Stansted, Eton Manor v Sawbridgeworth, Hullbridge Sp v Ford.

Second division
(17) Blackpool v Wycombe
(18) Bournemth v Oxford Utd (12.30)
(19) Brentford v Brighton
(20) Bristol R v Huddersfield
(21) Crewe v Cambridge Utd
(22) Peterboro v L Orient
(23) Rotherham v Chester
(24) Shrwsbury v Bradford
(25) Stockport v Birmingham
(26) Wrexham v Swansea
(27) York v Plymouth

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huddersfield	17	11	4	2	38	23	37
Oxford Utd	17	11	4	2	33	18	37
Birmingham	17	9	6	2	30	12	33
Wycombe	17	10	3	4	27	21	33
Hull	17	9	3	5	30	22	30
Blackpool	17	9	2	6	28	25	29
Stockport	17	9	1	7	28	24	28
Crewe	17	8	2	7	30	34	26
Wrexham	17	7	5	5	27	24	26
Bristol Rovers	17	6	8	3	26	16	26
Bradford	17	8	2	7	26	27	26
Peterborough	17	7	5	5	22	25	26
Brentford	17	8	1	8	23	17	25
Swansea	17	6	7	4	21	17	25
York	17	6	5	6	22	19	23
Rotherham	17	5	3	9	20	26	18
Plymouth	17	5	3	9	20	32	18
Brighton	17	4	6	7	15	23	18
Shrewsbury	17	4	4	9	23	25	16
Cardiff	17	4	4	9	23	29	16
Cambridge Utd	17	4	4	9	20	28	16
Leyton Orient	17	4	2	11	16	28	14
Chester	17	3	3	11	13	26	12
Bournemouth	17	2	3	12	13	35	9

Third division
(28) Bury v Fulham
(29) Carlisle v Doncaster
(30) Chestrfld v Preston
(31) Colchester v Scunthrpe
(32) Darlington v Barnet
(33) Exeter v Scarboro
(34) Hartlpool v Rochdale
(35) Lincoln v Gillingham
(36) Mansfield v Walsall
(37) Northmptn v Hereford
(38) Torquay v Wigan

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	16	12	3	1	31	12	39
Bury	16	12	2	2	27	6	38
Doncaster	16	10	4	2	29	11	34
Barnet	16	8	5	3	25	18	29
Walsall	16	7	6	3	25	16	27
Colchester	16	7	4	5	20	23	25
Chesterfield	16	7	4	5	18	18	25
Torquay	16	6	5	5	24	22	23
Scunthorpe	16	6	4	6	24	21	22
Rochdale	16	6	3	7	24	34	21
Mansfield	16	6	3	7	22	21	21
Lincoln	16	6	3	7	21	20	21
Fulham	16	5	6	5	19	19	21
Preston	16	6	2	8	20	20	20
Darlington	16	5	4	7	19	22	19
Exeter	16	5	3	8	12	25	18
Gillingham	16	4	4	8	19	26	16
Northampton	16	2	8	6	12	17	14
Wigan	16	4	1	11	21	29	13
Scarborough	16	3	4	9	14	25	13
Hereford	16	3	4	9	14	28	13
Hartlepool	16	3	4	9	9	20	13

Vauxhall Conference
(—) Altrnchm v Telford
(—) Bromsgrove v Stafford
(—) Dover v Bath
(—) Farnborough v Welling
(—) Halifax v Kettering
(—) Macclsfld v Gateshead
(39) Northwich v Yeovil
(40) Runcorn v Dag and Red
(41) Southport v Merthyr
(41) Southport v Merthyr
(42) Stalybridge v Woking
(43) Stevenage v Kiddrmnstr

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
(44) Falkirk v Dundee Utd
(45) Kilmarnck v Hearts
(46) Motherwell v Partick

First division
(—) Clydebank v Airdrie
(47) Dundee v Ayr
(48) Hamilton v St Johnstn
(49) Stranraer v Dunfrmne

Second division
(50) Berwick v Stenhousemuir
(51) Brechin v Queen Of South
(52) Clyde v Dumbarton
(53) G Morton v East Fife
(54) Stirling v Meadwbnk

Third division
(55) Arbroath v Ross County
(56) Caley This v Alloa
(57) Cowdnbth v Albion
(58) Forfar v East Stirling
(—) Queen's Park v Montrose

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Third round qualifying: Northallerton v Blyth Spartans; Warrington v Colwyn Bay; Knowsley v Ashton United; Fleetwood v Spennymoor Utd; Curzon Ashton v Gresley; Barrow v Winsford Utd, Frickley Athletic v Whitby; Guisborough Town v West Auckland Town, Hyde United v Boston United; Dunston v Ilkeston; Bamber Bridge v Grantham Town; Droylesden v Leek; Gretna v Seaham Red Star; Rushden and Diamonds v Crawley; Cheltenham Town v Worthing; Aldershot Town v Rothwell; Sudbury v Carshalton Athletic; Gloucester City v Chelmsford City; Grays Athletic v Chertsey; Hednesford v Trowbridge Town; Bedworth United v Boreham Wood; Worcester City v Molesey; Moor Green v Marlow; Bashley v Yeading; St Albans City v Purfleet; Baldock Town v Walton and Hersham; Halesowen Town v Hitchin Town; Aylesbury United v Dorchester Town; Weston-Super-Mare v Chesham United; Kingstonian v Harrow Borough; V S Rugby v Bognor Regis Town; Atherstone United v Newbury

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton v Hastings; Cambridge City v Gravesend and Northfl, Sittingbourne v Solihull Southern division: Ashford v Fareham Town; Bury Town v Burnham; Fisher 93 v Clevedon; Newport IoW v Poole Town; Salisbury City v Waterlooville; Wealdstone v Erith and Belvedere; Weymouth v Margate; Witney Town v Tonbridge AFC; Yate Town v Braintree Town Midland division: Bilston v Sutton Coldfield Tn; Evesham v Dudley Town; Hinckley Town v Bridgnorth Town; Leicester United v RC Warwick; Newport AFC v Buckingham Town; Nuneaton Borough v Forest Green; Tamworth v Armitage.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Enfield v Sutton United; Hayes v Slough; Wokingham v Dulwich First division: Barking v Leyton; Basingstoke Town v Heybridge Swifts; Berkhamsted v Ruislip Manor; Dorking v Wembley; Staines Town v Abingdon Town; Uxbridge v Billericay Town; Wivenhoe Town v Whyteleafe Second division: Banstead v Metropolitan Police; Bracknell Town v Aveley; Chalfont St Peter v Hemel Hempstead; Cheshunt v Saffron Walden Tn; Croydon v Barton Rovers; Edgware Town v Maiden Vale; Hampton v Egham; Thame Utd v Leatherhead; Tilbury v Ware; Windsor and Eton v Oxford City; Witham v Hungerford Town Third division: Bedford Town v Canvey Island; Clapton v Leighton Town; Cove v Southall; East Thurrock Utd v Epsom and Ewell; Feltham and Hounslow B v Collier Row; Flackwell Heath v Lewes, Harefield Utd v Kingsbury Town; Hertford Town v Northwood; Hornchurch v Camberley Town, Tring Town v Harlow Town.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Buxton, Bishop Auckland v Witton; Emley v Morecambe; Gainsborough v Chorley, Guiseley v Marine; Matlock v Horwich First division: Atherton v Gt Harwood, Atherton L R v Harrogate Town; Congleton v Eastwood Town; Goole Town v Netherfield; Lancaster v Radcliffe; Mossley v Workington, Worksop v Caernarfon Town

FA VASE: Second round replays: Meir K.A. v Cammell Laird

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry v Mold; Caersws v Newtown (2.30), Conwy v Ton Pentre; Cwmbran v Bangor City (2.30); Ebbw Vale v Connah's Quay; Flint Town v Inter Cardiff (2.30); Holywell v Llanelli, Llansantffraid v Aberystwyth; Maesteg Park v Porthmadog; Rhyl v Afan Lido

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barkingside v Croydon Athletic; Brimsdown Rovers v St Margaretsbury; Brook House v Waltham Abbey; Hanwell Town v Amersham Town, Hillingdon Borough v Haringey Borough, Tower Hamlets v Cockfosters, Walthamstow Pennant v Corinthian Casuals; Willesden v Beaconsfield Sycob. Intermediate Cup Second round: Beckton United v South East Olympic; Cray Valley v Singh Sabha, Lewisham Elms v Woolwich Town, Metpol Chigwell v Southwark-Faweh: Old Roan v Tottenham Wine.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division. Ashford v Cranleigh; Bedfont v Netherne, Eton Wick v Cobham A: Farnham Town v Chipstead, Godalming and Guildford v Sandhurst Town, Horley Town v Hartley Wintney; Peppard v Ash Utd; Viking Sports v Merstham. Westfield v D C A Basingstoke.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey Town v Shillington; Biggleswade Tn v Harpenden: Dunstable Old Boys v Buckingham Ath; Hatfield Town v Wingate and Finchley; Langford v Royston Town; Letchworth Gc v Brache Sparta, Milton Keynes v Potters Bar Tn; Welwyn G C v Hoddesdon Town.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Second round: Barnstaple v Chippenham Town; Brislington v Tiverton: Bridgwater Town v Paulton Rovers; Dawlish Town v Minehead; Glastonbury v Devizes Town. Keynsham Town v Crediton Utd; Melksham Town v Welton Rovers, Odd Down v Liskeard Athletic; Westbury United v Ilfracombe Town; Backwell Utd v Clyst Rovers; Bishop Sutton v Elmore; Pewsey Vale v Amesbury Town; Calne Town v Frome Town; Taunton v Torrington.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe Town v March Town Utd, Halstead Town v Hadleigh United, Harwich and Parkeston v Lowestoft Town; Newmarket Town v Tiptree Utd; Soham Town Rangers v Histon, Stowmarket Town v Woodbridge Town; Wisbech Town v Haverhill Rovers.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: AFC Totton v Bemerton Heath Harl, Aerostructures v East Cowes Vics; Brockenhurst v Andover; Cowes Sports v Swanage and Herston, Eastleigh v Portsmouth RN; Fleet Town v BAT; Gosport Borough v Thatcham Town. Horndean v Afc Lymington, Petersfield Town v Downton: Ryde Sports v Christchurch, Wimborne v Bournemth.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division. Ringmer v Eastbourne Town.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Beckenham Town v Faversham Town. Chatham Town v Furness; Darenth Heathside v Crockenhill; Dartford v Whitstable Town; Folkestone Invicta v Tunbridge Wells; Greenwich Borough v Canterbury City; Herne Bay v Corinthian; Sheppey Utd v Cray Wanderers, Slade Green v Deal Town. First division Cup: Second round: Ramsgate v Thamesmead Town

HELLENIC LEAGUE Premier division. Bicester Town v Carterton Town; Brackley Town v Cirencester Town, Fairford Town v Moreton Town; Tuffley Rovers v Banbury Utd

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: *Premier division: Bourne v* Wellingborough Town, Desborough v Boston; Eynesbury rovers v Stotfold, Holbeach v Newport Pagnell; Long Buckby v Raunds, Mirrlees Blackstone v Cogenhoe; Northampton Spencer v Kempston; Stamford v S and L Corby. League Cup: First round Spalding v Wootton

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: First division: Barwell v Paget Rangers; Boldmere St. M v Bolehall Swifts; Knypersley Vic v Chasetown, Rushall O v Brierley Hill Town. Shifnal Town v Pershore Town, Stapenhill v Oldbury United, Stratford Town v Shepshed D: West Mid Police v Sandwell Boro. Willenhall Town v Hinckley Athletic.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Premier division:Alvechurch Villa v Ansells; Handrahan Timbers v Kings Heath, Highgate Utd v Coleshill Town, Knowle v Chelmsley Town, Shirley Town v West Midland Fire Service; Upton Town v Olton Royale. Challenge Cup: Third Round Bloxwich Town v Wellesbourne; Studley BKL v Northfield Town.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare v Belper Town; Arnold Town v Stocksbridge P S. Ashfield Utd v Ossett Town; Denaby Utd v Maltby MW. Lincoln United v Thackley; North Ferriby Utd v Glasshoughton Wel; Ossett Albion v Hucknall Town; Pontefract Col v Brigg Town. League Cup. Second Round: Pickering Town v Hallam

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES First division: Bacup Borough v Chadderton; Bootle v Eastwood Hanley; Burscough v Nantwich Town; Clitheroe v Glossop North End: Kidsgrove Athletic v Blackpool Rovers; Maine Road (Manchester) v Darwen; Penrith v Trafford. Prescot v Bradford Park Avenue: St Helens Town v Newcastle Town; Salford City v Holker Old Boys; Skelmersdale Utd v Rossendale Utd.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE First division: Bedlington Terriers v Peterlee, Durham City v Murton; Eppleton CW v Prudhoe Town, R T M Newcastle v Chester Le Street; Tow Law v Billingham.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Cliftonville; Ballyclare v Larne, Coleraine v Portadown; Crusaders v Ballymena; Distillery v Glenavon; Linfield v Carrick; Newry v Glentoran, Omagh v Bangor

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Galway v Bohemians (7.0)

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE. First division Cambridge Utd v Portsmth. Charlton v Watford; Ipswich v Fulham, Norwich v Gillingham; Southend v Millwall; Tottenham v Arsenal Second division: Brentford v Bournemth; Bristol R v Wycombe; Oxford Utd v Reading; Southampton v Tottenham, Swindon v Brighton. League Cup: Bristol City v C Palace, Chelsea v QPR, Colchester v Wimbledon; West Ham v L Orient

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE Lloyds Bank v Old Bromleians: Old Westminster Ctz v Lensbury; Southgate Olympic v Alleyn OB; Brentham v Ibis; Barclays Bank v Reigate Priory

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Ulysses v Parkfield. Senior two: Albanian v Old Fairlopians; Corinthian Casuals v Old Finchleians; Old Bealonians v Hadley. Senior three: BBC v Polygons; Fulham Compton Ob v Old Colleians; London Welsh v Old Monovians. Senior four. Broadfields v Mayfield Athletic; Centymca v Bourneside; Hampstead Heathens v Economicals, Old Simmarobians v London Airways. Pegasus v Inland Revenue

OLD BOYS LEAGUE. Premier division: Chertsey v Clapham.

AFA SENIOR CUP: First round: Nat West Bank v O Tenisonians, Merton v Cardinal Manning: Nottsborough v O Meadonians; Mill Hill Village v Glyn Old Boys, O Danes v O Salvatorians; O Wilsonians v Crouch End Vampires, O Hamptonians v Polytechnic; O Lyonians v O Ignatians. O Esthamians v O Aloysians, O Wokingians v South Bank Poly; Bank Of England v O Kingsburians; O Suttonians v City Of London; O Grocers v Old Isleworthians; Broomfield v O Westhamians. O Minchendenians v O Manorians; O Camdenians v Cuaco

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Trophy Under-19: Northumberland v Cleveland. Northern Merit League: Wigan v Chester. Welsh Shield: Kirkby v Flint. Inter-City Challenge: Derby v Hull; Barnsley v Spen Valley. Bradford v Blackburn; Nottingham v Grimsby; Halton v Manchester; Telford v Wolverhampton

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

International match
Wales v South Africa
(at National Stadium, Cardiff)

Tour match
Combined Services Under-21 v New Zealand Youth
(at Castlecroft, 2.30)

Under-18 matches
Edinburgh v North and Midlands (2.0)
Glasgow v South (2.0)

CIS Insurance divisional championship
London and South East v Northern
(at Wasps, 2.15)
Midland v South West
(at Leicester, 3.0)

CIS County championship
Midlands group A
North Midlands v Staffordshire
(at Stourbridge)

Northern group
Cheshire v Northumberland
(at Chester)
Cumbria v Durham (2.15)
(at Kendal)
Yorkshire v Lancashire (2.15)
(at Otley)

Southern group pool one
Hertfordshire v Somerset
(at Harpenden)

Southern group pool two
Devon v Sussex
(at Exeter)
Gloucestershire v Buckinghamshire
(at Clifton)

Southern group pool three
Hampshire v Kent
(at US Portsmouth)
Oxfordshire v Eastern Counties
(at Oxford)

Southern group pool four
Cornwall v Dorset and Wilts
(at Camborne)
Middlesex v Berkshire
(at Harlequins)

Inter provincial championship
Connacht v Leinster
(at Galway)
Irish Exiles v Munster (3.0)
(at Sunbury)

McEwan's League
First division
Currie v Boroughmuir (2.0)
Dundee HSFP v West of Scotland (2.0)
Edinburgh Acads v Hawick (2.0)
Jed-Forest v Heriot's FP (2.0)
Melrose v Stewarts Mel FP (2.0)
Stirling County v Gala (2.0)
Watsonians v Glasgow H K (2.0)

Second division
Biggar v Glasgow Acads (2.0)
Edinburgh Wndrs v Gordonians (2.0)
Grangemouth v Kirkcaldy (2.0)
Kelso v Peebles (2.0)
Preston Lodge v Haddington (2.0)
Selkirk v Musselburgh (2.0)
Wigtownshire v Corstorphine (2.0)

Club matches
Askeans v Streatham and Croydon
Barking v Basildon
Basingstoke v Guildford and Godalming
Bath v Loughborough Sdts (3.0)
Berry Hill v Barnstaple
Bradford and Bingley v Leeds (2.15)
Cambridge Univ v Leicester (3.0)
Fylde v Blackheath
Harrogate v Newcastle Gosforth (2.15)
Hereford v Lydney
Met Police v Newbury
Morley v Liverpool St Helens (3.0)
Moseley v Sale (3.0)
Northampton v Bedford (3.0)
Nottingham v West Hartlepool (3.0)
Nuneaton v Rugby
Orrell v Waterloo
Oxford Univ v Durham Univ (3.0)
Plymouth v Torquay Athletic (2.45)
Preston G v Rotherham (2.15)
Rosslyn Park v London Scottish (3.0)
Saracens v Bristol
Sheffield v Broughton Park
Stoke v Hull Ionians
Stourbridge v Leamington (1.30)
Stroud v Clifton
Sutton and Epsom v Havant
Tabard v Cheshunt
Wakefield v Otley
Walsall v High Wycombe
Weston-super-Mare v Taunton (3.0)
Wharfedale v Huddersfield
Winnington Park v Wigan

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Fourth round: London and South East: Crowborough v HAC, Old Bevonians v Witham; Ongar v Darenth Valley; St Albans v London Nigerians, Stowmarket v Cranbrook; Tonbridge v Ilford Wanderers; Tring v Hadleigh, Ventnor v Old Gravesendians; Whitstable v Woking. Wisbech v Old Tiffinian. Midlands: Birmingham City Officials v Buxton: Bromyard v Warley, Erdington v Wellingborough Old Grammarians; Melton Mowbray v Queens; Oakham v Kempston; Rushden and Higham v Bishops Castle and Onny Valley: Wednesbury v Burntwood. North: Blackpool v Newton le Willows; Medicals v Marple; Moortown v North Shields: Mossley Hill v Ponteland, Northampton Casuals v Huddersfield YMCA, Wallasey v Crewe and Nantwich, Wibsey v Parkonians; Winlaton Vulcans v Knottingley South and South West: Beaconsfield v Thatcham: Bristol Saracens v Penryn. Buckingham v Salcombe: Cancross v St Agnes. Crewkerne v Broad Plain, Kingsbridge v Bishopston; Old Plymothian v Tredworth.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy
First round
Huddersfield v Blackpool (3.0)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Premier division: Askam v Heworth (2.30).

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: League Cup: First division: Surbiton v East Grinstead (Sugden Road 5.0); Teddington v Canterbury (Teddington School 1.0): Reading v Trojans (Sonning Lane 2.0).

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Colchester v Bishop's Stortford; Dereham v Chelmsford; Ipswich v Peterborough Town; Luton v Blueharts. Redbridge and Ilford v Cambridge University. Premier division B: Bury St Edmunds v Bedford, Romford v Norwich City: Stevenage v O Southendian; Sudbury v Pelicans. Westcliff v Ipswich and E Suffolk.

SUN LIFE PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Bath Buccaneers v West Glos; Hereford v Taunton Vale, Plymouth v Exeter University; Swansea v West Wilts; Weston-super-Mare v Cheltenham

NORTHERN LEAGUE: Formby v Harrogate, Hightown-Northern v Southport. Norton v Timperley; Stockton v Blackburn; Warrington v Ben Rhydding

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich v Leicester Westleigh; Khalsa v Harbourne; Notts v Belper; Nottingham v Lichfield. Olton and West Warwickshire v Hampton In Arden.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier league: Anchorians v Ashford; Chichester v Lewes, Fareham v Maidenhead, Gore Court v Winchester; O Kingstonians v City Of Porstmouth, O Whitgiftians v Wimbledon; Oxford Hawks v Dulwich; Staines v Lyons: Woking v High Wycombe Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Basingstoke v Lensbury; Fleet v Bournemouth, Hamble OB v Cheam, Merton v Oxted, O Mid Whitgiftians v Camberley; Oxshott v Barnes, Petersfield v London University, Purley v Pirelli, Sgouthhampton Tautonians v O Edwardians; Weybridge Hawks v Epsom. Kent/Sussex: Beckenham v Tulse Hill; Belvedere v O Bordenians; Bexleyheath v Greenwich: Blackheath v Mid Sussex, Bognor v Tunbridge Wells: Brighton v Sevenoaks, Crawley v O Holcombeians; Gravesend v O Williamsonians; Herne Bay v Horsham: Middleton v Marden Russets Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Hayes v Bracknell; HCC v City Of Oxford: Hendon v Eastcote: Marlow v Gerrards Cross; Mill Hill v Headington: Milton Keynes v Amersham: Newbury v Wokingham; OMT v Sunbury, PHC Chiswick v Aylesbury: Ramgarhia v Richings Park.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Balsam Leicester v Clifton: Chelmsford v First Personnel Sutton Coldfield: Hightown v Bracknell; Slough v Ipswich. First division: Bradford Swithenbank v Doncaster; Ealing v Canterbury, Exmouth v Trojans; Wimbledon v Blueharts. Second division: Great Harwood v Olton; Pickwick v St Albans, Loughborough v Sherwood: Woking v Sunderland Bedans

SCHOOLS: British Aerospace National Under-16 championship Eastern final (Norwich).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Nottingham (8.0), Bracknell v Fife (6.0), Durham v Cardiff (7.0): Edinburgh v Sheffield (6.30): Peterborough v Whitley (6.30). First division: Dumfries v Chelmsford (5.15); Lee Valley v Trafford (7.0); Paisley v Solihull (7.0); Slough v Medway (6.30); Swindon v Romford (5.30), Telford v Teeside (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Derby v Birmingham (8.0); Hemel v Sunderland (7.30): Leicester v Thames Valley (7.30); Manchester v London (7.30): Worthing v Doncaster (8.0)

LACROSSE: North Of England League: First division: Boardman and Eccles A v Sale; Poynton v Mellor: Stockport v Ashton; Heaton Mersey v Sheffield Steelers; Cheadle v Timperley.

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston).

WATER POLO: National League: First division: Bristol v Sutton and Cheam.

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership
Aston Villa v Sheffield Wed (4.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Wolverhampton W v Derby (2.55)

Scottish Coca-Cola Cup
Final
Raith Rovers v Celtic
(at Ibrox)

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Monaghan v Athlone (2.30); Shamrock v Derry (2.30).

RUGBY UNION

Tour match
Surrey v Australian Combined Services
(at London Irish, 3.0)

Club matches
Camborne v Redruth (2.30)
Coventry v Newport (3.0)
Wasps v London Irish (3.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Stones Bitter championship

First division
Bradford v Wakefield
Castleford v Hull (3.30)
Leeds v Doncaster
Salford v St Helens
Sheffield v Workington (3.15)
Warrington v Featherstone
Wigan v Oldham

Regal Trophy
First round
Barrow v Nottingham (2.30)
Batley v Queens (3.15)
Bramley v Mysons (2.30)
Carlisle v Dudley Hill (2.0)
Highfield v Ovenden
Hull K R v Hensingham (3.15)
Keighley v Chorley (3.15)
Leigh v Leigh M W
London Broncos v Hemel Hempstead
Rochdale v Woolston
Ryedale York v West Hull (3.15)
Swinton v Saddleworth
Whitehaven v Thatto Heath (2.0)

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: League Cup: First division: Guildford v Surbiton (King's Manor School 12.0); East Grinstead v Teddington (Saint Hill 2.0) Havant v Reading (Havant College 2.15); Trojans v *Slough (Stoneham Lane, Eastleigh 1.30)*. Second division: Brooklands v Beeston (George's Road, Sale, 1.45); Cambridge City v Barford Tigers (Hinchingbrooke School, Huntingdon 1.0); Edgbaston v Doncaster (Birmingham University 12.30) Hampstead and Westminster v Bromley (Paddington RG 12.30), Oxford University v Harleston Magpies (St Edward's School, Oxford 2.0), Richmond v Gloucester City (Teddington School 2.0), Sheffield v Crostyx (Abbeydale Park 12.30), St Alban's v Isca (Clarence Park 2.0), Whitchurch v Neston (Llys Tal y Bont, 1.30).

SCHOOLS: Girls: British Aerospace National Under-18 championship Western final (Cheltenham). Under-16 Eastern final (Bournemouth).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell v Durham (5.15), Humberside v Edinburgh (5.45), Milton Keynes v Basingstoke (6.0); Nottingham v Fife (7.30), Whitley v Cardiff (6.30). First division: Guildford v Blackburn (5.15); Medway v Teesside (5.15). Paisley v Chelmsford (7.0), Romford v Slough (5.15); Solihull v Dumfries (7.0); Swindon v Telford (5.30) Trafford v Lee Valley (at Bradford, 5.15).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v Hemel; Leopards v Sheffield.

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston)

VOLLEYBALL: European men's championship qualifier, second leg: Portugal v England (Oporto). Women's national league: First division: Sale v Britannia Music City; Ashcombe Guildford v KLEA Leeds; London Malory v Birmingham.

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Saturday portrait: Gerry Francis by David Miller

Born leader who stood by his principles sets out to win more spurs

ILLUSTRATION: STEVE MARTIN



Not even the greatest players can play football without the ball. Someone, therefore, has to win it. A simple enough maxim, you might say, but it has been a central factor in the career of Gerry Francis as both a player and a manager.

Francis was on the verge of becoming the most complete England midfield player of the modern era until struck down by a back injury when with Queens Park Rangers, falling on the base of his spine on a frozen pitch. As dynamic, with or without the ball, as Neeskens then was for Holland — or as Mackay had been when Tottenham last won the league in 1961 — Francis was appointed England captain by Don Revie in 1975, when only 23, with a brief that effectively made him an assistant manager out on the field.

He was all that a manager dreams of, possessing that quintessential English quality of determination within a range of abilities that made him ball-winner, schemer and scorer. Injuries to McFarland, Bell, Beattie and Francis, and Todd's reluctance to play internationally, robbed the controversial Revie of half a team.

There was about Francis, born within earshot of Loftus Road and, as a boy, watching his father, Roy, playing for Brentford, the same natural leadership on the field that Alf Ramsey had seen in Bobby Moore, only more articulate. Francis made others play better; he knew it, and liked it.

It was equally natural that he would become an outstanding coach. Long ago he had observed: "I feel players want to be guided, want to know their positions [tactically]." It is his base instinct, arriving at Tottenham amid tactical chaos, that the players need *organisation*, to be told where to be at different phases of the game.

For many years, Tottenham have had a miserable time playing at Anfield, where they go today, primarily because their style, and Liverpool's, has made it exceedingly difficult for Tottenham to win, and to keep, the ball. Correcting this will be at the forefront of the instructions from Tottenham's new manager to a side that this season would often have struggled to pin down a three-legged sheep. Poor positioning and marshmallow tackling in midfield and defence have left Tottenham horribly vulnerable; 24 matches without a clean sheet until Wednesday night.

"It's a tough one, there's a huge amount to do," Francis admits with heavy understatement, inheriting from Osvaldo Ardiles, midseason, a club with no money to spend, unless he sells, and with one win in the last nine matches, fourth from bottom of the table if penalised by six points as decreed by the Football Association.

Francis flowered as a young player at Rangers under the management of Gordon Jago, who admired most his ability to win the ball. It was the era of contrast: the eloquent Bowles (a Rangers colleague), Hudson, Bell and Currie on the one hand, the expedient Storey, Hunter and Smith on the other. Francis accepts their interdependence: "Neither a Gascoigne nor a Stiles will win you anything alone. You need passers, savers [goalkeepers], tacklers, leaders, scorers. You need a squad that is complete to win anything."

> 'He made others play better. It was natural that he would become an outstanding coach'

His pride is that, in his three seasons with Rangers, they finished eleventh, fifth and ninth, always above Tottenham, never mind that he was obliged successively to sell Parker, Wegerle and Sinton, unable to compete financially with the big clubs. Transfers out, £10 million; transfers in, £2 million. The year they were fifth, he spent only £160,000. Only Blackburn Rovers (with Jack Walker's money), Newcastle United and Nottingham Forest, he considers, can come close in terms of resources to challenging the Big Six: Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, Arsenal, Tottenham and Aston Villa.

Francis does not need the game, having financial independence from private business, but is driven by his love for it. During his giddy four years as manager of Bristol Rovers — he loaned them money to buy players, and in 1991 they won the third division title and reached the Leyland DAF Cup final — he had regular fish and chip Saturday suppers with the players, to whom he is "Gerry", not "boss".

Now 42, he has an almost academic appetite for teaching, the true manager-coach. His private thrill is to have rescued Les Ferdinand from obscurity and turned him into a multi-million-pound target for rich rivals; to have enticed Nigel Martyn from a £100-per-week factory job in Cornwall — "I'll give you £105" — to Rovers, and then made him the first £1 million goalkeeper, sold to Crystal Palace.

Having gone from cleaning boots and sweeping terraces as an apprentice to captaining England, he likes to say, matter-of-fact: "There is nothing any player can do that I have not experienced." On or off the field, his man-of-the-world manner infers. He was something of a playboy of the Seventies, a gift to prying photographers, and remained a bachelor until he was 38. He did not believe in marriage; from his observed experience it was too often a shackle on young players, a restriction on both man and woman.

"I was into a round of parties, heavy drinking, and hitting the sack with various birds," he told an interviewer in 1977. "My football suffered a lot. I began to realise the price you pay for being in the public eye."

While continuing with the game, on which he was hooked, and fighting off injury, he built a series of businesses together with a girlfriend with whom he lived for 14 years, including antique furniture. This venture was sold when he joined his present partner, of the past five years, with whom he has an 18-month-old son, Adam. His private life may be unconventional yet, in its way, is steady, sensible, logical. Modern, you might say.

He is, indeed, an unusual mixture. A former star player, yet a born teacher who can still say: "I'm learning every day." A man of absolute certainty in his convictions, yet without undue boastfulness or self-promotion. Bold, yet cautious. A player who responded like an actor to the roar of Wembley or Hampden Park, yet back home, in rural Surrey, breeds racing pigeons.

On the one hand, he can say of his time with Bristol Rovers: "When I went there, they didn't think they could win. When I left, they didn't think they could lose." There were 5,000 supporters' signatures pleading for him to stay, but he felt he could do no more, and pined for a return to his West London roots.

On the other hand, he has made it clear to Alan Sugar, Tottenham's impulsive chairman who has no background in the game but who longs to ride publicly in a champions' celebration chariot, that it is Sugar as much as he who is now on trial. "If I'm not happy next June, who knows?" Francis says, enigmatically.

Clearly he is not to be pushed around. But the Rangers owner has just learnt that, Francis regarding his proposed appointment of Rodney Marsh as chief executive as intolerable. "It didn't matter if it was Rodney Marsh or Donald Duck [as my superior]," Francis said, when quitting, before his appointment at Tottenham. "You have to live by certain principles. I just hope the club will not suffer."

Nor is he hungering, some day, for the England job now held by his mentor when a previous Rangers manager, Terry Venables. Contemplating the vacancy, after Graham Taylor's dismissal, Francis was ambivalent. "I'm very patriotic and I'd love to see us do well again internationally," he said, "but there are many things about the present England set-up that would have to change before I would consider the job." Francis does not like to gamble. That is why the Tottenham team gives him the shivers: as likely to lose 4-3, as it did to Villa last week, as to win 5-4. Perhaps it is also why he does not believe in marriage, and why he is, basically, still in two minds about management, as opposed to coaching. Coaching he enjoys, like training his pigeons.

"I don't really enjoy management," he says candidly. "It will never replace playing." You can be sure, however, that he will give Tottenham everything, just as he used to do on the field.

Hanley closes on milestone for try-scoring

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE question was always put: "Are you going to pick yourself Ellery?" The answer was always in the negative, but there lingered the suspicion right up until Hanley's entrance to Elland Road for the final rugby league international with Australia in blazer and tie as opposed to Great Britain kit.

Hanley was insistent there were better players around than himself; more agile certainly, but not necessarily more competent. Now 33, Hanley is playing as cannily as ever for Leeds and stands on the verge of yet another personal milestone. Four more tries would make him only the ninth player to score 400.

Swapping the hat of Britain coach for Leeds player-coach was achieved with customary assuredness. Between the first and final internationals, Hanley vented any frustration with a hat-trick of touchdowns against Wakefield and two more at Featherstone. These brought his total to 396 in 474 appearances for Bradford, Wigan, Leeds and in international and representative matches, since 1978.

> Mark Aston, the Featherstone Rovers half back, has failed in his appeal against a four-match ban imposed after he was sent off in the match against Leeds.

There were numerous appeals for him to come out of international retirement. In resisting temptation, Hanley gave an indication as to where his future priorities lie. As good as he still is, as dedicated his commitment is to training, Hanley retains a firm grip on his mortality.

He was persuaded last year about a "final" season. "You have got to turn your back on the game as a player some time because physically you could do yourself damage," he said last week. "Your mind does not react as quickly and your feet do not get you out of trouble as quickly." Seven weeks was hardly ideal preparation for a series against Australia. Unlike his team, his calm dignity triumphed in misfortune, and Hanley is anxious to remain as Britain coach. With the World Cup next October, and a tour of Australia in 1996, it would be a surprise if a match-by-match appointment failed to become more permanent.

His inspiration at Leeds is on the pitch for the time being. The gap with Australia is about the same separating Wigan from the rest, with Leeds and St Helens five points behind. Wigan meet both in the next month, with the possibility that the Stones Bitter Championship really could be over by Christmas.

Tomorrow Leeds take on Doncaster, whose capacity for upset should not be underestimated, although their last win at Headingley was 1963. St Helens take their ten-match unbeaten league run to Salford, while Wigan should equal, at Oldham's expense, the best start to a season of 13 straight victories by Widnes 13 years ago.

Besides these three, the challenge has petered out, in the case of Bradford Northern, quite miserably. After winning eight consecutive matches, Bradford have leaked 151 points in losing four of their subsequent five league games. Following a swap deal with Wakefield, Gary Christie should appear against his former club, who include Daio Powell, a Bradford player until four days ago.

The most intriguing of tomorrow's Regal Trophy first-round ties is that between Leigh and their amateur neighbours, Leigh Miners. The second division club field five former Miners players, including Mark Sarsfield, the centre, who faces his elder brother, Winston. Miners have recalled, at the age of 42, Tony Cottrell, a former Leigh player and chairman.

Girls cry foul as Lara runs into trouble



SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

THE ruffling of Spanish machismo is not the hardest task in the world, but it has been performed with rare class and style by Lara Ruas, aged nine. Lara, a footballer, plays for Benidorm juniors and the other week scored the winning goal against their local rivals, Bandia. Bandia were outraged, and complained to the Valencia football federation. The federation said that they were quite right to protest, and forbade Lara from playing for the team again. The reason is simple enough. Lara is, of course, a girl. "It's an absolute disgrace," Maria Teresa Andreu, president of the Spanish Women's FA, said. "It's real machismo. Last year the Spanish federation ruled that girls can play with boys, and there is nothing in the Spanish constitution to stop that." Lara — described by her father, Enrique, the team's trainer, as "a great midfield player who kicks the ball with both feet and plays intelligently" — has been in tears ever since.

Mum's the word

The Brazilian press is calling this the Adultery of the Year. Romario, the World Cup-winning striker, has been bedding, it is claimed, a 20-year-old singer named Andrea Alexandra De Oliveira. A magazine has even printed a picture of them sharing a sofa. Romario dismissed the business. "We had a relationship that was of no importance," he said, in his Wildean way. His marriage has never been stronger. But, since then, the mother of the singer, a lady named Delma Katz, claims to have a photograph inscribed: "To my dear little mother-in-law, Delma — tender little kisses from her son-in-law, Romario." Adulterer or not, Romario certainly gets the Golden Sickbag award for the inscription.

An advert on the back of a cricket magazine offers an Allan Border bat in a "limited edition" of 11,174: one for every Test run he scored. A lot of runs: a lot of bats. Not all that limited, then, really. Some bat-makers don't make that many bats in a year.

Hot stuff

"A revolutionary piece of equipment called Hot Ball that could enhance the popularity of squash has been designed by Gary Hurlestone, who now lives in Merthyr Tydfil," a somewhat bewildering press release tells me. Hurlestone was "increasingly irritated when the game stuttered forward every time a fresh, cold ball was used". Who would not be? To rectify the defect, Hot Ball is now available for £14.99, including batteries: who could afford to be without one?

Trouble brewing

Back to the thrilling world of Australian No Rules Football, and I learn that West Coast Eagles have been fined Aus $10,000 for celebrating with the wrong brand of beer. Mighty Eagles beat Geelong in the Grand Final, which is enough to have anybody reaching for the nearest tinny.



As the celebrations spontaneously combusted, a number of players were seen raising cans of Emu Export to their lips. This particular nectar is mined by one of the Eagles' sponsors, Swan Brewery. But the 1994 finals series was sponsored by a rival brewer, Carlton and United, which makes Foster's. The intemperate celebrations were in breach of an exclusivity deal. Isn't dictating what beer an Australian drinks a violation of basic human rights?

Feeling the pinch

Football and rugby teams in the North have been hit in a series of raids by a confidence trickster who "feels omnipotent" and is "probably not even doing it for the money". The assessment comes from Dr Richard Badcock, a forensic psychiatrist at Pinderfields Hospital in Wakefield. The "Phantom of the Dressing-Room" poses as a home official, helps the visiting team unload its kit, shows the players to the dressing-room, helps them with bootlaces and sticking plaster, takes their valuables for safe-keeping — and vanishes. So far he has hit five football clubs in the Northern Premier League, two rugby league grounds, and an undisclosed number of union grounds. He is 5ft 11in, of medium build, with mousey hair and moustache, and able to speak in a fair selection of northern dialects. If anyone says "aye, 'appen, any road, oop, ah'll look after tha' Rolex," this column recommends caution.

Lost cause

Early news of a tremendous record attempt from the Los Angeles Clippers in America's National Basketball Association. The Clippers have made a perfect start to the season, losing all 11 matches so far. The record they chase is that of the Philadelphia 76ers who, in the season of 1972-73, won nine matches and lost 73. Last season, the not inaptly named Dallas Mavericks had a serious tilt at the record, only to fall away with a few victories late in the season. But the Clippers look the genuine article. A former team member, Dominic Wilkins, said: "I don't think they'll ever turn things around there. I think they're going to break the record."

Laker's magic

The hunt for the magic numbers of sport continues: many thanks to those who have already contributed. This week has seen a run on 19, Jim Laker's eternal piece of sporting numerology. The collection will be revealed in all its glory in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, more suggestions gratefully accepted, and the reward is, as ever, generous: a bottle of Bell's eight-year-old blended bliss.

Crowe on verge of unique feat

MARTIN Crowe, the New Zealand cricketer, was within 19 runs of becoming the first batsman to score a century against each of the other eight Test playing nations at the end of the first day of the first Test match against South Africa in Johannesburg yesterday. Crowe's presence at the crease for nearly four hours for an unbeaten 81 ensured that the visitors finished well placed at 242 for four.

In partnership with Ken Rutherford, the New Zealand captain, Crowe pulled his side round from a precarious position at 92 for three. The pair added 126 runs, Rutherford's share being an aggressive 68 that contained 11 fours and two sixes. Both Rutherford's sixes came off Eksteen but the South Africa left-arm spinner had his revenge when he induced Rutherford to top-edge a ball to mid-off. It was Eksteen's first Test wicket.

Rutherford must have been regretting his decision to bat during the first hour, when the ball moved around extravagantly and Young fell to a slip catch in the fourth over. Fleming and Darrin Murray, who was making his Test debut, lived dangerously but survived to add 72 for the second wicket before both were removed by de Villiers, who was the best of a mediocre South Africa attack. Fleming, dropped on 26, struck a bright 48.

The match, the first of a three-match series, was the first Test between the countries for 30 years.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings
B A Young c McMillan b Snell
D J Murray c Richardson b de Villiers
S P Fleming b de Villiers
M D Crowe not out
*K R Rutherford c Cronje b
S A Thomson not out
Extras (b 5, w 2, nb 1)
Total (4 wkts)
†A C Parore, M N Hart, D J Nash and R P de Groen to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS:
BOWLING: de Villiers 21-4-61-2; Snell 23-6-69-1; Matthews 18-2-53-0; McMillan 10-1-34-0; Eksteen 13-5-27-1; Cronje 3-0-15-0.
SOUTH AFRICA: A C Hudson, G N Kirsten, *W J Cronje, D J Cullinan, J N Rhodes, B M McMillan, †D J Richardson, R P Snell, C E Eksteen, C R Matthews, P S de Villiers.

Richardson's army joins the Tyneside march

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL
BY KEITH PIKE

LIKE Kevin Keegan, Colin Richardson talks a good game of football and, like Newcastle United, Tyneside's other black-and-white army is on the march. Gateshead never were as big as Newcastle, and never will be, but this weekend the city's two leading clubs have more in common than at any time for several decades.

Newcastle United are third in the FA Carling Premiership. Gateshead third in the Vauxhall Conference, their highest position since forfeiting their place in the Football League to Peterborough United 34 seasons ago. "The success Newcastle and Kevin have had has certainly rubbed off," Richardson, the Gateshead manager, said. "We are even getting 50 or 60 people coming along to watch us train. While Newcastle get a hundred times that number, it is little things like that that tell me Gateshead are on the way up."

Come match days, though, while every seat is taken at St James' Park, Gateshead have to make do with fewer than 500 supporters spread thinly around the 18,000-capacity International Stadium. That is why playing away from home holds no fears for Richardson's team, and why they will set off for Moss Rose today in good heart for the match with Conference leaders, Macclesfield Town.

"Playing at home is a bit of a nightmare because of the lack of atmosphere, and that is why we look forward to playing away," Richardson said. "The team is all about togetherness — winning together, losing together — and we will be going to Macclesfield believing we can win."

Little more than 12 months ago, losing together was something Gateshead were accustomed to. Richardson took over on November 4, 1993, and his first match was a thumping 6-1 defeat — at Moss Rose. Only four of that side are likely to play today.

"They weren't bad players when I took over, but they needed direction," Richardson said. He steered them to eleventh place, their highest ever finish, and the improvement has continued. Gateshead start the day eight points adrift of Macclesfield, who lead Woking on goal difference and who will be seeking their eighth consecutive Conference victory.

Richardson will be pinning most of his hopes on the sharp-shooting instincts of Paul Dobson, the Conference's top goalscorer last season with 25 and joint leader in this campaign with 13.

Dobson, 31 and a veteran of seven professional clubs, now works as a warehouseman, and comes with a less than glowing tribute from Richardson. "He has done the rounds, and when he doesn't have the ball he is a complete waste of time," he said. "There are a million things wrong with him. But he's precious: he has pace, is always looking for the half-chance, and scores goals." Macclesfield have been warned.

As Cantona broods, Ferguson must decide whether to sever his French connection

Magic now wears thin for United's talisman



ROB HUGHES
Weekend View

Is it time to say *au revoir*, Cantona? The question may sound like heresy, the very height of insolence, to Mancunian ears, yet I submit that the Frenchman is at the root of Manchester United's problems, as well as being the catalyst for their recent glories, when they seek to translate their form in England's FA Carling Premiership on the Continent of Europe.

I need no reminding that Eric Cantona, on his good days, transcends the stage on which he performs. I was a follower of his long before Trevor Francis, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, brought him out of self-imposed retirement and tempted him across the Channel. Francis could not hold him, but both Leeds United and Manchester United won championships that may not have been theirs without the inspiration of Cantona.

Moreover, he is in rewarding form at league level. He has been on the winning side in the last seven games he has played in England, scoring in five of them. I would not swap moments from Cantona for those from any player of any era.

His last appearance at Old Trafford destroyed Crystal Palace; in the one before that, he opened the scoring against Manchester City in unique style. He strutted towards the penalty area, and he seemed intuitively to know that Andrei Kanchelskis would direct the ball in from the right. And so, without breaking stride, Cantona caressed it with the outside of his right ankle, allowed the ball to bounce, and impudently stroked it beyond the goalkeeper.

So why, when at 28 the man remains the embodiment of Manchester United form, could anyone contemplate his removal?

There is the question of Cantona's effect on United's discipline, or rather their indiscipline. He has flitted in and out of the side this season because of suspensions. His manager, Alex Ferguson, forever grateful for the way Cantona lifted the albatross off the back of all those who had laboured 26 years for United's return to the pinnacle of the English game, has too often indulged the spiteful side of Cantona's nature.

Consequently, the most daunting task that still foxes this manager — that of instilling in United both the pride and the contained passion to win abroad — still has much to do with his public relationship with the French maverick.

Ferguson has plenty of delicate decisions before him. At some stage he will have to tell Steve Bruce, a captain who has given so much for the cause, that retirement beckons. At some stage soon he must coax Ryan Giggs, 21 next Tuesday, out of the self-doubt that has settled on him more than at any time since the winger was 17.

Ferguson, meanwhile, is wrestling with the dilemma of when to hold or when to release Mark Hughes. And he rides the volatile disciplinary aberrations committed by his midfield players, Paul Ince and Roy Keane.

None of those decisions, yet all of them in a way, involve Cantona. For listen to any Manchester United player, Giggs and Hughes included, and you will hear how much Cantona leads their mood and their inspiration.

"He has really opened up everyone's football awareness," Hughes, the Wales striker, says. "We see Eric doing things and we think, 'I'll try that'. We're not as good at it as Eric, but he has freed us a little bit, and that's why we now play with that little bit more flair."

Since Hughes uttered those thoughts last summer, he has been trying to assure himself of a future at Old Trafford. Whether he gets the longevity his form and his commitment deserves, he is right to ascribe some of his successes to the Gallic prompting of Cantona.

It has been remarkable, this symbiotic but often silent partnership between two experienced international players. And Cantona's consistency in the Premiership, far better than at any of his six previous clubs, has repaid a dozen times over the £1.2 million Ferguson speculated on him at a time when United had the skill, but lacked the total belief, to go on and win the championship.

For that reason, Ferguson has maintained that the player, the lucky charm he lured from Leeds, would be the first name on his teamsheet and would remain there until such a day when Cantona himself became a gypsy on the move of his own volition.

The timing of Cantona's departure will be the second most important transfer decision of Ferguson's career. The first was signing him 26 months ago. But while I, among millions, look forward with high expectation to every performance involving the Frenchman, there is still underlying unease at the attempt to build a foundation of club discipline and reliability around him.

It was the late Joe Mercer who, at the time when George Best walked out on Manchester United in December 1972, commented: "The foundation of success is the strength of the weakest players.

"Genius is great when it's on-song. It's more than a nuisance when it goes bad because it contaminates what is around it."



Cantona's genius is undisputed, but his influence may have undermined Manchester United's bid to conquer the football fields of Europe

Little move to Villa sparks legal row with Leicester

BY DENNIS SHAW

BRIAN Little last joined Aston Villa as their new manager, three days after he resigned from Leicester City, but the appointment has provoked a bitter dispute between the two clubs.

In announcing Little's appointment, with John Gregory, who has also moved in from Filbert Street, as his coach, Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman, insisted that everything about the move had been carried out "to the book". Leicester, however, were last night threatening to take legal action over Little's appointment.

"The board received a categoric written assurance from Brian Little that he would not be the next manager of Aston Villa," Martin George, the Leicester chairman said. "As a result, urgent instructions have now been issued to our legal advisors to proceed forthwith."

However, Ellis emphasised last night that, in his view, every detail of Little's move from Filbert Street had been conducted within the code of conduct currently being formulated for clubs playing in the FA Carling Premiership.

The resignation of Allan Evans, Little's former assistant at Leicester, as the club's caretaker manager yesterday morning has further widened the divide between the clubs. Neither Ellis nor Little would give a firm indication of whether Evans was also likely to return to Villa Park, where he, like Little, was a successful player. Significantly, perhaps, Gregory has been named as coach and, at the moment, Little does not have an assistant manager.

Ellis has said that he had made no approach to Little, who said that he had applied for the Villa job after leaving Filbert Street, but Ellis confused the issue by commenting: "He was always my No 1 choice if he were to become a free agent. It is the return of the prodigal son to this club. He came here, along with his parents, when he was 14 years of age."

Little, who had no comment to make on the threat of legal action by Leicester, said: "My life has been a series of challenges and this is simply the latest of them. I'm not coming here simply to be a manager. I want to be a successful manager, winning honours.

"I have been successful for the last five years and that's the way I want it to continue to be. I will have no problem getting on with the big name players. I'm not coming here to be awkward. I want to be creative. There will be no great changes in style. I want a winning team, but I shan't ask players to perform in a way that is foreign to them."

Evans said: "In the light of recent events I no longer feel I can work for the club. It was always my intention to take charge only for the game against Arsenal [which Leicester won 2-1]."

Little, the former Darlington manager, made his name as a forward at Villa Park between 1969 and 1981, when a back injury ended his career at the age of 27. He twice won promotion with Darlington before moving to Filbert Street in 1991. He will meet the Villa players today and then name the squad to play Sheffield Wednesday at Villa Park tomorrow.

FA seeking overlord to put England back on top

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

WANTED: technical director of football, to oversee transformation of England into global superpower again. Must possess wide-ranging experience, "inspirational qualities" and liking for foreign travel. Must be available for employment within 18 months. Apply in strictest confidence to: Graham Kelly, chief executive, Football Association, London.

That was how, yesterday, the FA launched its search for someone to put England back in the front rank of international teams after their failure to qualify for the last World Cup finals.

Prospective candidates appear thin on the ground at present but the fact the appointment does not have to made for 18 months — after England has hosted the European championship finals — suggests that the FA may be considering Terry Venables, the England coach. He filled a similar, all-embracing role at Tottenham Hotspur until his falling-out with Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman.

"We are looking for a magnetic person," Kelly said. "Someone who has experience of the playing side of the game at the highest level and the ability to lead and inspire. It is vital that we get the right man."

Whoever takes the job will have a free hand to direct the future of English football, from the under-11 age group through to the senior team. But though the technical director will, in the FA hierarchy, be above the England coach, he will have no say in the selection or tactics of the national side.

"It is going to be a vast job. The guy will be in charge of the whole of football," Venables said. "We have an arrogance in this country. We say how much better we are than everybody else ... yet recent history proves we are not better."

Manchester United's probable exit from the European Cup, after their 3-1 defeat at IFK Gothenburg, only re-emphasised the need for a fresh look at how the English game is progressing.

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, is keen to strengthen his squad with home-grown players but may have to keep one eye on the club's balance sheet.

At the annual meeting of Manchester United plc yesterday, Professor Sir Roland Smith, the chairman, spoke of plans to expand the capacity of Old Trafford from 44,300 to near 54,000. "All our options remain open but if we proceed, these developments will have a cost. It may also mean achieving a balance between buying English players and increasing stadium capacity."

Graham demands united front

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

GEORGE Graham, the Arsenal manager, will be expecting all his players to rally round at Highbury today, put revelations about Paul Merson out of their minds and concentrate on the FA Carling Premiership match against Manchester United.

Although Arsenal have promised to give Merson, a self-confessed cocaine addict, full support in terms of rehabilitation, Graham feels badly let down by the latest slur on the club's reputation. Merson, by his own admission, has veered off the straight and narrow many times before and been knocked back into shape by Graham.

But now the manager is convinced that Merson's problems can only be resolved by self-will and refuses to compromise his attention to the team. The Football Association's handling of the situation, promising a full-scale investigation but reserving judgment on any punitive action until Merson has had every chance to show his willingness to reform, will be duplicated by Arsenal.

Graham has moved quickly to refocus his players' concentration on the high-profile Premiership match this afternoon. United visit Highbury as champions, and top of the table, but their morale was seriously damaged by the 3-1 defeat at IFK Gothenburg in the European Champions League on Wednesday.

"We are facing our third crisis game in a row, but for different reasons," Graham said. "After the Grobbelaar situation at Southampton last Saturday, and the midweek game at managerless Leicester, we have points to prove and will maybe get the result we want. It is probably the biggest game of the season, but we are ready for it and I'm sure United will be despite what happened in Sweden.

"I do not expect to see their heads down and know ours will not be. We have not been playing well, with just three defeats in 15 games, but I've talked to the players and taken it for granted they will respond the right way. Team spirit will be maintained because they are professionals and, while the pressure is on, we are used to that."



Graham: facing problems

Problems are piling up again for Graham, despite Arsenal winning six leading trophies in eight years. Although his record almost defies criticism, he admits: "There are certain problems I'm not qualified to deal with. Maybe people will begin to realise there is more to being a manager than just sitting in a dug-out. I've learned more about myself as a manager than as a player, when you only have your own form and attitude to worry about."

Bruce Grobbelaar continues to play in goal for Southampton, at Crystal Palace today, despite allegations of match-fixing still hanging over him and Andy Cole, the Newcastle United striker, returns for the game at home to Ipswich Town after missing five matches while he rested his shin splints problem.

Newcastle have won only once during his absence. "Andy's return is a tremendous boost for us," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said yesterday. "Of course, we have missed him. He is the best goalscorer in the country. Having him back will give the whole of the team, not to mention the crowd, a huge lift."

Keegan's delight at the 14-goal forward's recovery has been tempered by the injuries to Steve Howey and Darren Peacock, the central defenders, along with Paul Kitson and Scott Sellars.

Oxford partners producing results

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN IN SYDNEY

SOUTH Africa held South Korea goalless to remain unbeaten in pool B of the World Cup hockey tournament here yesterday. The partnership between the captain, Wayne Graham, and the coach, Gavin Featherstone is helping make them a team to be reckoned with, for in their opening match they shared two goals with Germany.

Graham played for the Oxford University team coached by Featherstone that won promotion to the national league two seasons ago and in his capacity as South Africa's captain presumably had a say in Featherstone's appointment.

Featherstone, an Oxford Blue and former England international, has found favour with the media here for his cavalier approach to the post-match press conferences. Yesterday he came quickly to the point.

"We are delighted with this result," he said. "We know we are good enough, now that we have held two world-class teams, the Asian Games champions and the Olympic champions in successive games."

Holland, the holders, and Germany, the most likely sides to qualify from this pool for the semi-finals, both won yesterday.

Holland beat India 4-2 while Germany proved far too strong for Belgium, winning 6-0. The Holland-India match, the best of the day, will be remembered for the brilliance of Holland's goals. Their 3-1 lead — the score was 1-1 at the interval — was reduced to 3-2 and India came within inches of an equaliser before the Dutch pulled away again. Van den Honert scored two goals for Holland, the second from a short corner, with Gebbink and de Nooijer adding to the score. Fereria, from a short corner, and Shakeel Ahmed, from a penalty stroke, replied for India.

Sven Meinhardt scored four goals, three from penalty strokes, in Germany's win. Belgium have now conceded 14 goals in their two games.

In the only match in pool A, Shahbaz Ahmed, the captain, inspired Pakistan to a 3-1 win over Spain. With the score tied at 1-1 in the second half and Tahir Zaman under suspension, he ran half the length of the field and laid on a chance for Kamran Ashraf to score his second goal. Within 50 seconds Wasim Feroze scored the third. Spain's goal came from Garcia-Maurino.

☐ In England, the last two places in the semi-finals of the League Cup will be decided today and tomorrow, with the issue in pools B and D still wide open. Stourport and Hounslow have already qualified from pools A and C respectively. In the national league, St Albans, who still hold the lead on goal difference, are expected to win their home match against Isca tomorrow.

DETAILS

Pool A

RESULT: Pakistan 3 Spain 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pakistan	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Australia	2	2	0	0	4	1	4
England	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Spain	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Belgium	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
Argentina	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

Pool B

RESULTS: South Africa 0 South Korea 0; Germany 6 Belgium 0; Holland 4 India 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	2	2	0	0	12	3	4
Germany	2	1	1	0	7	1	3
India	2	1	0	1	4	4	2
South Africa	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
South Korea	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Belgium	2	0	0	2	1	14	0

Leading scorers

7: T van den Honert (Holl).
4: S Meinhardt (Ger).
3: Kamran Ashraf (Pak).
2: S Veen (Holl), Wasim Feroze (Pak), G Fereira (India).

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FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Detroit 35 Buffalo 21, Dallas 42 Green Bay 31

BADMINTON

KELVIN HALL, Glasgow: Scottish Open championships (GB unless stated): Men: Second round: C Simonsson (Den) bt J Van Soerland (Holl) 15-7, 15-6; A Antropov (Rus) bt D Poste (Ger) 15-1, 3-15, 15-8; P Pekgessy (Holl) bt T Espersen (Den) 15-11, 15-9; R Magnusson (Swe) bt A Nielsen 15-2, 18-13; E Lie (Nor) bt J Olsson (Swe) 5-15, 15-7, 15-7; P Knowles bt P Vanneste (Bel) 15-9, 15-2; T Johansson (Swe) bt P Rasmussen (Den) 15-8, 18-14; D Hall bt B Flockhart 16-18, 15-5, 15-8. Women: First round: M Pedersen (Den) bt A Gibson 9-12, 11-8, 11-9; I Yakusheva (Rus) bt B Petersen (Ice) 11-1, 11-5; H Poole (Can) bt E Chaffin 11-7, 11-4; A Soendergaard (Den) bt K Ericsson (Swe) 12-11, 12-11; J Mann bt M Pawangadker (India) 9-12, 11-0, 11-9; D Jeen (Can) bt G Martin 11-1, 11-3; M Berg (Swe) bt M Rasmussen (Den) 11-1, 11-4; M Sorensen (Den) bt T Groves 11-4, 11-3. Second round: Mann bt M Clouter (Can) 11-9, 8-11, 12-9; Julian bt Yakusheva 11-8, 11-3; M Berg (Swe) bt M Hoogland (Holl) 12-11, 11-6; Sorensen bt J Muggeridge 11-5, 8-2 (ret'd); Lim XO (Swe) bt Pedersen 11-0, 11-0; A Crabo (Swe) bt Yakusheva 11-4, 11-8; L Thomsen (Den) bt Poole 11-1, 11-5; Soendergaard bt Sean D (Can) 11-0, 11-4. Mixed doubles: Quarter-finals: J Andersson (Swe) and A Crabo (Swe) bt J Laugesen (Den) and H Kongsgaard (Den) 15-8, 18-15; J Eriksen (Den) and R Olsen (Den) bt K Middlemiss (Scot) and E Allen (Scot) 15-6, 15-11; M Keck (Ger) and K Stechmann (Ger) bt T Stavngaard (Den) and A Josefgensen (Den) 15-6, 9-15, 15-4; C Jacobsen (Den) and L Olsen (Den) bt D Yung (Can) and D Julien (Can) 15-8, 11-15, 15-6

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 123 Golden State 96

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: London Towers 87 (D Lewis 26, A Windless 22) Leicester Riders 72, Sunderland Scorpions 86 Doncaster Panthers 103

EUROPEAN MEN'S CHAMPIONS' CUP: Semi-final round: Group A: CSKA Moscow (Russ) 77 Panathinaikos (Gr) 70, Maccabi Tel Aviv (Isr) 93 Real Madrid (Sp) 85. Group B: Joventut Badalona (Sp) 75 Olympiakos (Gr) 76 (overtime), Barcelona (Sp) 84 Limoges (Fr) 81; Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 56 Istanbul (Tur) 68

CRICKET

CALICUT, India: Tour match: West Indies 176 (S Chanderpaul 56, A Kuruvilla 5-42), Bombay 53-2

FOOTBALL

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Nottingham Forest 0 Wolverhampton Wanderers 2; Stoke City 4 Rotherham United 1 Tranmere Rovers 1 Manchester United 1. Second division: Burnley 4 Mansfield Town 3

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Dundalk 2 St Patrick's Athletic 0, Cork 3 Cobh Ramblers 0.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: League Cup: Second round, second Leg: AFC Totton 0 Thatcham 2; Petersfield 1 Portsmouth RN 4.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: ESFA Full Film Trophy: Third round: East Cornwall 2 Worcester 2. Third round replays: Aldershot 2 Southampton 1, Swansea 3 Plymouth 0

FA PREMIER LEAGUE UNDER-18 TROPHY: Gloucestershire 0 Cornwall 0

GOLF

IBUSUKI: Japan: Men's tournament: Leading second round scores (Japan unless stated): 134: R Gamez (US) 68, 66. 135: H Sasaki 71, 64, S Ikauchi 70, 65. 136: W Smith (Aus) 67, 69. 137: S Fujita 71, 66. 138: K Tomori 71, 67, R Gibson (Can) 69, 69; M Kawamura 69, 70; R Kawagishi 68, 70. Other score: 146: P Walton (Ire) 75, 69.

PORT EDWARD, South Africa: Men's tournament: Leading second-round scores (SA unless stated): 131: H Buhrmann, 134: P Jonas 135: T Dodds (Nam), D Terreblanche, E Els, 136: J Hawkes, M McNulty (Zim) Other scores: 137: M Archer (GB), E O'Connell (Ire) 138: C Dawson (GB), R Burns (Ire). 140: M Ure (GB), C Williams (GB).

ICE SKATING

BUDAPEST: World junior figure skating championships. Ice dance: Compulsory dances: 1, S Guardia and F Laporte (Fr) 0.4 factored placements, 2, O Sharutenko and D Naumkin (Russ) 0 8, 3, I Filipowecz and M Szumski (Pol) 1.2. 17, C Clements and G Shortland (GB) 5.6. Men: Short programme: 1, I Kulik (Russ) 0.5; 2, T Cerez (Fr) 1.0; 3, E Mamnov (Ukr) 1.5. 18. N Wilson (GB), 9 D Palmer. Final standings: 1, M Petrova and A Sikharulidze (Russ) 1.5; 2, D Hartsell and S Hartsell (US) 3.0; 3, E Filonenko and I Marchenko (Ukr) 5.0; 4, V Shliakhova and A Maskov (Russ) 5.5; 5, S Marchant and C Hawse (Can) 8.0; 6, S Dimitrov and R Rev (Ger) 8.5

RUGBY UNION

DUBAI: Emirates International Sevens Trophy: Kiwi Nomads 26 Holland 15, Crawshays 24 Sri Lanka 14, White Hart Marauders 17 Hawke's Bay 5, Natal 12 Froggies 19, Queensland 12 Kiwi Nomads 5; Warblers 45 Crawshays 5; London Scottish 31 Holland 7, Sri Lanka 0 Korea 28 Shamrocks 10 Germany 5, Northampton 0 Romania 26; Quarter-finals: Hawkes Bay 17 Warblers 24, Froggies 22 Kiwi Nomads 19; Korea 17 Natal 10, Queensland 26 White Hart Marauders 5. Semi-finals: Warblers 14 Froggies 12; Korea 22 Queensland 5. Final: Korea 27 Bahrain Warblers 26. Plate: Quarter-finals: Shamrocks 17 Sri Lanka 12, Romania 17 Holland 5; Crawshays 28 Northampton 14, London Scottish 5 Germany 26. Semi-finals: Shamrocks 12 Romania 19, Crawshays 24 Germany 0. Final: Crawshays 31 Romania 24. Gull championship: Final: Bahrain 33 Dubai 19

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Daily Mail Under-18 Cup: Third round: Abingdon 24 Bishop Wordsworth 10, Solihull Sixth Form College 11 Bromsgrove 13, Windsor & RGS High Wycombe 17; Wirral GS 12 RGS Lancaster 20; Colston's 44 Kingsbridge 8. Others matches: Basilake 0 King Henry VIII 37, Bryanston 11 Marlborough 6, Emanuel 64 Sutton Valence 0, RHS Holbrook 0 King's, Ely 35; Hampton 21 Tiffin 28; Eton 41 St William's 7; Christ's Hospital 10 Seaford 0.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Crawshays Welsh XV 24 Welsh Exiles 3

TOUR MATCHES: Cardiff 68 King Williamstown Development XV (SA) 13; Wales Under-21 20 Romania Under-21 8 (at Bridgend)

SQUASH

CUMBERLAND LTC: Cannon's British satellite circuit: J Russell (Kent) bt C Newlyn (Middlesex) 9-1, 6-9, 9-0, 9-4, 9-7; S Townsend (Warwickshire) bt J Head (Hampshire), 9-2, 9-0, 9-1

TENNIS

AACHEN, Germany: European women's team championship: Selected results: Great Britain 1 Italy 2 (British names first). S A Skiddall lost to L Golarsa 2-6, 0-6; C Wood lost to S Cecchini 4-6, 4-6. Wood and Skiddall bt M Grossi and A Serra-Zanetti 6-0, 7-6); Great Britain 0 Belgium 3 (British names first). J Pullin lost to E Callens 0-6, 2-6. Wood lost to L Courtois, 1-6, 1-6. Wood and Skiddall lost to Callens and N Feber 2-6, 6-3, 3-6).

JAKARTA: World doubles championship: Red Group: P Haarnuis (Holl) and J Eltingh (Holl) bt G Connell (Can) and P Galbraith (US) 6-7, 7-5, 6-4, J Apell (Swe) and J Bjorkman (Swe) bt S Casal (Sp) and E Sanchez (Sp) 6-2, 7-6.

WEIGHTLIFTING

ISTANBUL, Turkey: World championships: Men: 91kg: Snatch: 1, A Petrov (Russ) 185kg, 2, I Chakarov (Bul) 185kg, 3, K Khakshashvili (Ge) 177.5kg. Clean and jerk: 1, Petrov 228kg, 2, Khakashvili 220kg; 3, V Belyatsky (Bela) 207.5kg. Total: 1, Petrov 414kg, 2, Khakashvili 397.5kg; 3, Belyatsky 380kg. Women: 76kg: Snatch: 1, A Khomich (Russ) 97.5kg; 2, M Takacs (Hun) 96kg; 3, R Ogbeifo (Nigeria) 95kg. Clean and jerk: 1, P Antonopoulou (Gr) 127.5kg; 2, M Takacs (Hun) 122.5kg, 3, Ogbeifo 115kg. Total: 1, Antonopoulo 220kg; 2, Takacs 217.5kg; 3, A Khomich 212.5kg. 83kg: Snatch: 1, M Urrutia (Col) 105kg; 2, Chen Shu-Chih (Taiwan) 105kg, 3, D Ackgoz (Tur) 100. Clean and jerk: 1, Urrutia 132.5kg (world record); 2, Chen Shu-Chih 130kg; 3, Ackgoz 120kg. Total: Urrutia 237.5kg; 2, Chen Shu-Chih 235kg; 3, Ackgoz 220kg.

Bad day at Brisbane gives England poor start to Ashes campaign

Australia draw first blood

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN BRISBANE

THERE are many ways, kind and cruel, of conveying the message that the first day of the Ashes series at the Woolloongabba yesterday was not a raging success for England but perhaps the most pointed is the fact that their two most effective overs were bowled, deep into the final hour, by Graham Gooch.

In his 42nd year and his 114th Test match, Gooch is a reluctant, last-resort bowler and, when Michael Atherton threw him the ball, Australia were plundering six runs an over, their score heading for the stratosphere. Yet Gooch, in swift succession, struck Mark Waugh on the right cheekbone with a bouncer and dismissed an aghast Michael Slater when a double-century was his for the taking.

Gooch's first Test wicket since July 1992 revealed nothing new about his bowling, which has always been serviceable in small doses, but plenty about the bowling of some of his team-mates on a day when the propagandist notion that England could blitz the Australian batting with pace and hostility looked, frankly, laughable.

Devon Malcolm's absence is some mitigation and there must be an honourable mention for Darren Gough, who performed once more as if the big occasion inspires him. Quite the opposite has to be said of Martin McCague, who had mislaid the fast bowler's essentials of speed, skill and stamina, while Phillip DeFreitas, to whom the role of stabiliser had confidently been entrusted, chose this of all days to revert to the innocuous length and precious reactions of old.

There was encouraging character and perseverence in the spin bowling of Phil Tufnell and there was little wrong in the high-risk area of England's fielding. Atherton, intent on example, plunged around heroically. But the reality that can no longer be avoided is that England's already slender prospects of embarrassing the Australian batting this winter are reduced to nil when half their attack malfunctions.

Slater habitually bats with the appetite of one so ravenous that he has one wide eye on the dessert trolley even as the main course is being served. His restless desire to hit every ball for four is occasionally self-destructive but on days such as this, when pitch and bowling are equally obliging, he presents entertainment on a scale beyond most batsmen.

The fourth century of his brief Test career was also his biggest. His range of strokes was wondrous, his footwork so slick that, eventually, even well-directed balls were being treated as half-volleys and pummelled through mid-on. Having made 105 by tea, he was well on course for a second century in the final session when he mistimed an off-drive and fell victim to a collector's dismissal: caught Gatting bowled Gooch.

If he is honest, Atherton will confess that it had not been in his plans to bowl Gooch, nor even to play Gatting. While the events of the day forced his hand in one matter, the events of the week had persuaded him that Old Greybeard's long and turbulent Test career was worth one last revival. On a dry pitch, sure to suit spin increasingly, the brains trust of the tour considered Gatting's technique and experience preferable to John Crawley's youth and talent. Time will judge them.

What Atherton most needed to do, however, was win the toss and, in this, he failed. Mark Taylor's decision to bat was automatic and the most conservative estimates of the Australian total topped 400 before the first ball had been bowled. When it was, pitched short by DeFreitas and clubbed square for four by Slater, an air of depressing familiarity descended and the hopes of men like Gooch, who have suffered so much against Australia, must have sunk in recognition.

This was a pitch that permitted no margin for error and England's new-ball pair erred extravagantly. The crowd, close to capacity in this redesigned ground, settled down for the scenario to which they have grown accustomed, one in which England's part is utterly subservient.

The first hour brought 50 runs and it sometimes seemed that Slater was hitting all the half-volleys for four and Taylor all the long-hops. Unusually, Taylor began to outscore his junior partner either side of lunch and was past 50, going well, when he drove Tufnell to mid-off and set off instantly for the sort of single that had been taken routinely. This time, though, Slater had not moved from his crease and Gough's competent return to Rhodes left Taylor stranded by fully 18 yards.

There was a cynical temptation to believe that this was the one way England would take a wicket but, soon, they had another. David Boon had scored only three when he dragged on a ball from Gough that he was trying to leave alone and will have spent the rest of the day in contemplation of a feast scorned.

Gough, having learned he had become a father when he woke up yesterday morning, gave vent to full celebratory mood and continued to bowl with admirable purpose. Atherton must have regretted resting both him and Tufnell in mid-afternoon for it was then that McCague purveyed much the worst spell of the day and England's reclaimed territory was conceded again.

There are few things cricket can offer more worthy of the ticket price than a stand between Slater and Mark Waugh and what followed was exceptional. The hour after tea brought 94 runs, England's seamers reduced to bowling with no close fielders and a ring of six saving singles.

Slater's third fifty came from only 51 balls but his impatience with Gooch's inoffensive medium-pace got the better of him and Gatting casually took a head-high catch. Gough was recalled to dismiss Bevan, playing a wooden drive, and discomfit the nightwatchman, Warne. It made little difference to the message of the day or the state of the game but it was reassuring to watch one England bowler with heart and pride.

Crowe on song, page 46

GRAHAM MORRIS



Slater, right, scampers through for his hundredth run at the Wolloongabba yesterday, while the frustration mounts for Tufnell

FIRST DAY SCOREBOARD

Australia won toss

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater c Gatting b Gooch . 176
(324 min, 244 balls, 25 fours)
*M A Taylor run out (Gough/Rhodes) 59
(134 min, 110 balls, 8 fours)
D C Boon b Gough 3
(34 min, 24 balls)
M E Waugh not out 82
(195 min, 135 balls, 7 fours, 1 six)
M G Bevan c Hick b Gough 7
(25 min, 18 balls)
S K Warne not out 0
(14 min, 10 balls)
Extras (lb 1, nb 1) 2
Total (4 wkts, 365 min, 90 overs) 329

S R Waugh, +I A Healy, T B A May, C J McDermott and G D McGrath to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-99 (Slater 40), 2-126 (Slater 64), 3-308 (M E Waugh 68), 4-326 (M E Waugh 79).

BOWLING: DeFreitas 19-3-72-0 (nb 1; 3-1-12-0, 5-1-12-0, 4-0-22-0, 4-1-9-0, 3-0-17-0), McCague 14-2-80-0 (3-0-15-0, 5-2-10-0, 3-0-23-0, 3-0-26-0); Gough 23-8-69-2 (3-1-9-0, 8-2-19-0, 6-1-13-1, 3-0-18-0, 5-2-10-1); Tufnell 25-3-72-0 (4-0-10-0, 7-1-13-0, 1-0-3-0, 2-0-8-0, 6-0-30-0, 5-2-8-0), Hick 4-0-22-0 (2-0-10-0, 2-0-12-0), Gooch 5-1-13-1 (one spell).

ENGLAND: *M A Atherton, A J Stewart, G A Hick, G P Thorpe, G A Gooch, M W Gatting, +S J Rhodes, P A J DeFreitas, D Gough, M J McCague, P C R Tufnell

Umpires: C J Mitchley (South Africa) and S G Randell (Australia).

TV replay umpire: P D Parker

Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand).

MATCHES TO COME: Second Test: Melbourne (December 24-29). Third Test: Sydney (January 1-5). Fourth Test: Adelaide (January 26-30). Fifth Test: Perth (February 3-7).

Compiled by Bill Frindall

Fletcher defends wayward McCague

KEITH Fletcher, the England cricket manager, sprang to the defence of Martin McCague after the fast bowler's mauling at the hands of Australia on the first day of the first Test match yesterday. McCague, who was deputising for the unwell Devon Malcolm, bore the brunt of the punishment as Australia's batsmen made hay on a benign Brisbane pitch, conceding 80 runs in 14 overs.

Fletcher said: "He couldn't have tried any harder. Martin didn't get it right but that's not meant as criticism. It was just one of those days for him.

"It's a good batting pitch and one of the slowest I've seen in Australia for a long while. We didn't use the new ball very well this morning but generally I thought we stuck at it well."

McCague, who was appearing in his first Test match since sustaining a stress fracture of the back during the Headingley Test against Australia in July 1993, suffered his worst punishment during the third-wicket partnership of 182 between Michael Slater and Mark Waugh. His last two spells, each of three overs, cost 29 and 26 runs respectively.

Slater, who fell late in the day to the part-time bowling of Gooch after reaching 176, his highest score in Test cricket, said: "I was a bit too cocky. But Gooch bowls a good line and length."

□ Fears of violence have forced the cancellation of the second day's play in the three-day match between Bombay and the West Indians in Kozikhode, India, today. Police yesterday shot dead at least five people in a student protest in a neighbouring district, and calls for a general strike followed. The West Indians were dismissed for 176 yesterday.

Arbiters give Tottenham new hope of Cup reprieve

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

TOTTENHAM, Hotspur are back in the FA Cup, pending a review by a new Football Association commission. An independent arbitration panel yesterday recommended that the FA should reconsider the penalties imposed on Tottenham after the club had been found guilty of financial irregularities under a board.

Tottenham will now hope that the team, under the guidance of Gerry Francis, their new manager, will be able to compete for the FA Cup, a competition they have won a record eight times. They could also have lifted the six-point penalty imposed at the same which would ease their fears of relegation from the FA Carling Premiership.

Three unnamed arbiters found in the club's favour after Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, had argued that both the original FA commission and appeals board had acted outside their powers.

Sugar will now request the return of the £1.5 million fine imposed by the FA also demand that his club's six-point deduction is struck from the record.

However, the club will still have to face a new inquiry, although it is unclear exactly what form of punishment is now open to the FA.

A statement from the FA, after the two-day hearing, said: "The arbitration tribunal convened to hear the challenge by Tottenham Hotspur Football Club to the Football Association's punishment has decided to remit the matter to a new FA commission. Tottenham's punishment and, in particular, its participation in this season's FA Cup is dependant on the decision of the new commission.

"Reasons for the tribunal's findings will be given to the parties shortly and a new FA commission will be empanelled to hear the matter as soon as possible."

The FA commission will have to convene quickly as the draw for the third round of the FA Cup is scheduled to take place a week tonight. As things stand, Tottenham will expect to be included — a massive boost for Francis and his players.

Tottenham were found guilty of financial irregularities at an FA disciplinary hearing at Wembley Conference Centre in June and were fined £600,000, had 12 points deducted from the eventual total this season and were excluded from the Cup. The club appealed and the points loss was halved but the fine was increased to £1.5 million and the Cup ban stood.

Sugar considered taking the FA to the High Court but agreed to go to arbitration in keeping with the guidelines of Fifa, the sport's world governing body. Now the arbiters have decreed that the FA acted outside its jurisdiction and the whole process must start again with the commission, presumably, offering advice.

□ One of Brazil's leading clubs will play three official games on the same day next month as they struggle to fulfil the country's crushing fixture list. Gremio, world club champions in 1983, will go one better than São Paulo, who last week played two official matches on one night. "This is absolutely absurd," Fabio Koff, the Gremio president said in a telephone interview from the southern city of Porto Alegre where the club is based. "There are no fans, no players and no directors who can stand so many games."



Brian Little last night became manager of Aston Villa. Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman, insisted that everything about the move had been carried out "to the book." ..... Page 47.

Paul Merson, page 4
Au revoir Cantona? page 47

Wattana rues miss as Doherty closes on final



Wattana: costly mistake

BY PHIL YATES

KEN Doherty placed one foot in the door of the Royal Liver Assurance United Kingdom snooker championship final yesterday by establishing a 6-2 lead over James Wattana in their best-of-17 frame semi-final at Preston Guild Hall.

Doherty, the world No 7, is attempting to become the first player from the Republic of Ireland to win the event since Patsy Fagan captured the inaugural United Kingom title in 1977. On the evidence of his performance against Wattana, Doherty is certainly capable of emulating his less well-known compatriot.

Having beaten Wattana on four of their previous six meetings, Doherty was entitled to fancy his chances, but when the Thai won the third frame with a break of, consisting of 14 reds and 14 blacks, it was he who appeared the sharper.

However, with a £20,000 bonus for a televised maximum break available, Wattana jawed the tricky last red to a middle pocket. The fact that the colours were all on their nominated spots merely served to intensify Wattana's disappointment at failing to become the first player to compile three 147 breaks in competition.

From that point, Wattana began to commit unforced errors and when, at 42-48 in the fourth frame, a snooker by Doherty yielded a free ball, the Dubliner cleared to pink with 31 to level at 2-2 and initiate a five-frame winning sequence.

A late 48 break in the fifth frame gave Doherty the lead for the first time in the match at 3-2 and, after Wattana had taken on, and missed, an ambitious red across the top cushion in the next, Doherty cleared to the blue for 4-2.

Wattana did not score again in the session. He conceded with four reds remaining on the table in the seventh frame after a 67 break from Doherty that opened the scoring and Doherty completed the afternoon with a well-constructed run of 73 to leave himself requiring only three more frames for victory.

Despite the effectiveness of Doherty's display, the consensus of opinion is that Stephen Hendry will beat either Doherty or Wattana in the final tomorrow to collect the £70,000 first prize, his twenti-eth ranking tournament success and the United Kingom championship for a third time.

In order to reach the final, Hendry must overcome Peter Ebdon, who, in dropping only 11 frames in four matches, has made smoother progress than any of his fellow semi-finalists.

Ebdon also has a respectable record against Hendry. Although the world champion has prevailed in two of their three meetings, he only beat Ebdon 5-4 in the last 16 of the International Open 19 months ago after recovering from 4-3 in arrears with century breaks in the final two frames.

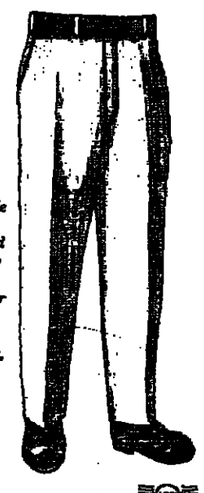
"I respect Stephen but I don't fear him," Ebdon, the world No 10, said. "I've had a pretty consistent season so far and mentally I feel very strong."

SEMI-FINAL: Latest position: K Doherty (Ire) leads J Wattana (Thai) 6-2.

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COMPETITIONS



A chance to win a holiday home in Brittany

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TRAVEL



Simon Barnes in the Garden of Eden

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BOOKS



Celebrities choose their best books of 1994

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OUTDOORS



Tutti, our cow for Africa, has her first calf

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PLUS: Derwent May's Feather Report, page 21

WEEKEND

THE NEW BRITISH WAY OF DEATH



By James Hepburn

Barbara Huelin is nearly 60 and lives with her 80-year-old husband, David, a retired bank manager, in a quiet street in Oxford. Ten years ago, at a time when other couples were contemplating their rose bushes, Mr and Mrs Huelin (left) began to prepare for disposal of their mortal remains.

"I am a neat person," Mrs Huelin says, "and I don't like to leave a mess for other people. I cycled around Oxford looking to buy a couple of coffins. Undertakers fell back with horror into their floral tributes at the very idea. So I said to Davie, 'You'll have to make them yourself, and you'd better get cracking because you're pretty ancient'."

Mr Huelin got cracking and the two coffins, painted with dark green emulsion, are kept in the studio shed at the bottom of their garden. On the lid of Mrs Huelin's coffin a friend has painted a bunch of poppies, her favourite flowers. Beside each is a bag of cedar-wood shavings for packing around their bodies when the day comes. "Cedar wood has such a super smell," Mrs Huelin says, "and the shavings are nice and absorbent. No matter how careful you are laying out a body, there will always be seepage." They have arranged their own transport to Oxford Council Cemetery and booked their own spaces.

Dealing so openly with mortality is unusual, particularly for the British. The business of death still seems taboo but, if the French have their way, the coming year will see a revolution in the business of British funeral direction. Four years ago, in Paris, Michel Leclerc opened the first "Supermarché de Mort". His company, Roc 'eclerc, now has 60 supermarket franchises and more than 200 smaller shops, with a third of the French funeral business. It is planning to open its first UK outlet this December in south London and expects to have a further ten to 15 franchises operating in Britain by the end of next year.

The Roc 'eclerc idea, according to Sam Weller, the UK franchise manager, is to "apply the technology of the food supermarket to the funeral industry". In place of black, the Roc 'eclerc colour-scheme is blue and yellow, and in place of dim bulbs and heavy velvet curtains is strip-lighting and stripped pine shelving. All the paraphernalia of death is on display, with a price-tag. "The main things we can offer," Mr Weller says, "are choice, economy and no hidden extras. We aim to charge between 20 and 30 per cent less than elsewhere but, above all, to offer the widest possible range, which our customers can view without the pressure of having a funeral director at their shoulder." But Roc 'eclerc

Continued on page 3, col 1

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DANCE

John Percival

ROYAL BALLET: Even after the cancellation of Michael Clark's new ballet, the programme which opens on Thursday December 1 looks uncommonly interesting, with two sterling modern works matched against Balanchine's classic showpiece to the Bizet *Symphony in C*. Ashley Page's *Fearful Symmetries*, to John Adams's music, had rave notices at its premiere last June, and William Forsythe's *Herman Schmerman*, witty and energetic and an excellent choice to replace the intended premiere, may feature Sylvie Guillem, who is in some performances of the Balanchine.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC1 (071-304 4000). Thursday 1, Tuesday 6, Wednesdays 7 and 14 at 7.30pm; Saturday 10 at 2pm and 7pm. Ⓢ

THE NUTCRACKER: When winter comes, can Tchaikovsky's *Christmas ballet be far behind?* First in the field this year is Moscow City Ballet touring a rather odd version to Woking (opens Monday 28), Oxford and Paignton. Peter Darrell's production for Scottish Ballet has some magical effects; starting at Aberdeen on Wednesday 30, it also plays Glasgow and Edinburgh. Matthew Bourne's cheeky Victorian updating has a final outing at Sadler's Wells, from Wednesday. The best-liked version is Peter Wright's for Birmingham Royal Ballet, which plays at its home base (December 9-17) before its first London showing at the Coliseum from December 22. English National Ballet's perennial staging plays at Southampton (December 8-10) and Nottingham (December 13-17) before starting its South Bank season from December 21.
New Victoria Theatre, Woking Ⓢ (0483-761144); **Apollo Theatre**, Oxford Ⓢ (0865-244544); **Festival Theatre**, Paignton (0803-558641); **His Majesty's Theatre**, Aberdeen Ⓢ (0224 641122); **Theatre Royal**, Glasgow (041-332 9000); **Festival Theatre**, Edinburgh Ⓢ (031-529 6000); **Sadler's Wells Theatre**, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 Ⓢ (071-278 8916); **Birmingham Hippodrome**, Hurst Street, Birmingham Ⓢ (021-622 7486); **Coliseum**, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 Ⓢ (071-632 8300); **Mayflower Theatre**, Southampton Ⓢ (0703 229771); **Royal Concert Hall**, Nottingham Ⓢ (0602 482626); **Festival Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 Ⓢ (071-928 8800).

ROCK

David Sinclair

OASIS: *Without doubt the new* sensation of 1994, Oasis has combined old-fashioned, guitar-band working practices with knucklehead arrogance to produce some of the most exciting rock 'n' roll of recent times. Their show involves the group in a lot of standing around on stage, and the crowd in scenes of alarmingly wild abandon. "We pity anybody who doesn't buy our records," singer Liam Gallagher once proclaimed, and presumably the same holds true for those who miss their shows. Do not be one of the unfortunates.
Guildhall, West Marland Road, Southampton Ⓢ (0703 632601), Nov 30; **Octagon**, Western Bank, Sheffield Ⓢ (0742 753300), Dec 1; **Corn Exchange**, Wheeler Street, Cambridge Ⓢ (0223 357851), Dec 4; **Barrowlands**, Gallowgate, Glasgow (041-556 5554), Dec 7; **Middlesborough Town Hall**, Dec 8; **Royal Court**, Liverpool, Dec 9; **Wolverhampton Civic Hall**, Dec 11; **Astoria**, Cardiff, Dec 12; **Hammersmith Palais**, London, Dec 13; **Manchester Academy**, Dec 18; all shows 7.30pm.

DINA CARROLL: With sales in Britain of her debut album, *So Close*, well in excess of a million copies, the Cambridge-born Dina Carroll has succeeded, where a virtual army of young hopefuls has failed, in becoming an authentic British soul star. Her style crosses the *divide between modern* dancefloor and the kind of classic soul associated with artists such as Aretha Franklin and the Temptations, two of Carroll's favourites.
Bournemouth International Centre, Exeter Road (0202 297297), Dec 2 and 5; **G-Mex**, City Centre, Manchester (061-824 3551), Dec 3 and 17; **Wembley Arena**, London Ⓢ (081-900 1234), Dec 6, 19 and 20; **Sheffield Arena** (0742 565500), Dec 8; **SECC**, Finnieston Street, Glasgow Ⓢ (041-248 9999), Dec 10; **Aberdeen Exhibition Centre**, Dec 11; **NEC**, Birmingham, Dec 13 and 14; **Cardiff International Arena**, Dec 16; **King's Hall**, Belfast, Dec 22; **The Point**, Dublin, Dec 23; all shows 7.30pm.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

MOSE ALLISON: As much a storyteller as a singer, Mose Allison *hands his listeners smudged* snapshots of the American dream, in songs as wry and offbeat as Randy Newman's. As usual, for his three-week Soho residency, he is *joined by his trio. You can rest* assured that his opening piano instrumental, teeming with double-handed chromatic runs, will be as tempestuous as ever.
Pizza Express, Dean St, London W1 (071-439 8722), from Wednesday 30 at 8.30pm.

JOHN SURMAN: The baritone has always been the poor relation of the saxophone family. Along with Gerry Mulligan and Hamiet Bluiett, John Surman has been among the handful of modern players who have focused on expanding the range and flexibility of *this cumbersome instrument*. On his many albums, he has used multi-tracking and synthesisers to create an impressionistic backdrop. For this fiftieth birthday concert he will be playing in solo, duet and quartet settings as well as with his ensemble, Brass Project.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Monday 28, 7.45pm. Ⓢ

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

AFRICAN ECHOES: Some of the most exciting music-theatre events of the past few seasons have taken place not in the opera house or concert hall, but in the gigantic Tramway in Glasgow. Tomorrow night's "Echoes of South Africa" event should add further lustre to the series. It includes *Spirit of the Drum-Song*, a new work specially commissioned by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra from the South African percussionist Eugene Skeef, and featuring 15 RSNO players alongside hundreds of local schoolchildren as well as Skeef himself playing the African mortar drum. Also in the concert is *Sowetan Spring*, the wind-band work written in 1990 by the Scottish composer James MacMillan to celebrate Mandela's release.
Tramway, Albert Drive, Glasgow (041-227 5511), tomorrow, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

HENZE IN HUDDERSFIELD: The Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival draws to a close this week with two mighty works by Hans Werner Henze. Tonight (Town Hall, 7.30pm) the English Northern Philharmonia plays his fascinating fantasy on German romanticism and its sinister mutants, *Tristan*. Tomorrow, Henze's *Requiem*, which made a profound impression when it received its British premiere at the Proms last year, is given its second British performance by the London *Sinfonietta and soloists*. Worth hearing for Hakan Hardenberger's amazing trumpet solos alone (Town Hall, 7.30pm).
Huddersfield Festival: Box office 0484 430528.

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

MY NIGHT WITH REG: Probably the best, certainly the funniest, of the many gay plays that have recently surfaced. Kevin Elyot's comedy has no agenda, only a rueful sympathy for six men precariously coping with love, loneliness and grief.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, London W1 (071-839 4488). Evenings: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8pm; Wednesday, 9.15pm. Matinées: Wednesday, 6.30pm and Saturday, 4pm. Ⓢ

THREE TALL WOMEN: Edward Albee's fine new play first presents us with a woman in senile decline, then dissects her past life. With Maggie Smith at her most volatile as the 90-year-old, and Anastasia Hille and Frances de la Tour representing her youth and middle age, the evening blends weight with humour.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071-369 1736). Evenings: Monday to Saturday, 8pm. Matinées: Wednesday and Saturday, 3pm.

● *More theatre, page 6.*

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

LA TRAVIATA: Maybe you should never go by the buzz, but the vibrations emanating from Bow Street about the Royal Opera's new production of Verdi's ever-popular but hard-to-bring-off masterpiece (it opened last night) are so positive *that it might be as well to check in* at the box office before the notices appear. The piece may be an old warhorse, but everything about this enterprise is new: Sir Georg Solti, unbelievably, conducting it in the theatre for the first time; the National Theatre's Richard Eyre directing his first opera; two bright young principals — Angela Gheorghiu and Frank Lopardo — singing Violetta and Alfredo for the first time. Whatever else, the staging will have to be fresh and free of preconception, yet given the production team's track record, it is not going to be set in Palm Beach in 2001 either. Go for it.
Royal Opera House, Bow Street, London WC2 (071-304 4000), Tuesday 29, Friday 2, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

BEATRICE AND BENEDICT: Positively the last chance to catch Elijah Moshinsky's gorgeous production of Berlioz's Shakespearian comedy for *Welsh National Opera*: a lavish set, sumptuous frocks, atmospheric lighting, and witty, richly detailed naturalistic direction. There are some cast changes, *but Sara Fulgoni's radiant Beatrice* is still there, and so is Donald Maxwell's deliciously fatuous Somarone. John Nelson is the expert conductor.
Hippodrome, St Augustine's Parade, Bristol (0272 299444), tonight, 7.15pm. Ⓢ

FILMS

Geoff Brown

DEAR DIARY (15): Refreshing, free-wheeling journal on film from Nanni Moretti, an actor-writer-director highly regarded in Italy, though scarcely known in Britain until now. In the first part, Moretti rides around Rome on his scooter, musing on the city, his childhood and cinema; in the second, he hops *islands, searching for quiet; in the* third, darker section, he undergoes chemotherapy. Not every moment works, but his off-hand visual style brings many pleasures, and there is a genuine charm to Moretti's wry observations about life and its *imperfections*.
Curzon West End (071-369 1722); **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (071-727 6705); **Renoir** (071-837 8402); **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (071-435 3366).

THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS (PG): The Pumpkin King of Hallowe'en, fed up with frightening people, kidnaps Santa and tries spreading Christmas cheer himself. The most off-beat family film of the season, bedecked with ghoulish puppets, stop-motion animation, and settings that the Addams family would call home.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666), **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098), **West End** (0426 915 574); **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772), **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520); **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332).

● *More films, page 6.*

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI: The *Pre-Raphaelite painter Dante Gabriel* Rossetti is better known than his sister. But Christina Rossetti is becoming recognised as an outstanding Victorian poet, especially in her disturbing epic, *Goblin Market*. She looks sombre in the portrait by her brother, a star exhibit in the National Portrait Gallery's survey of her life and work. But beneath her spinsterish exterior, Christina nurtured a fertile imagination and wrote lively children's books. She was involved with the emergent feminist movement, and many of her poems were superbly illustrated by her brother and other leading Victorian artists.



Portrait of Christina Rossetti

National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (071-306 0055), until February 12. Ⓢ

PAULA REGO, JOHN MURPHY AND AVIS NEWMAN: Many of Paula Rego's most outstanding paintings are owned by the Saatchi Collection, and they form the impressive centrepiece of the latest show at Saatchi's all-white gallery in St John's Wood. *The Policeman's Daughter* is the strongest image of all, painted in 1987 when Rego's art was at its most *hypnotic. But Dog Woman shows a* return to form in 1994, and other pictures from this disturbing new series can be seen at Marlborough Fine Art. The second Saatchi exhibitor, John Murphy, displays a quietly lyrical sequence of pastels inspired by the star-flecked sky at night. And Avis Newman, whose work is seen all too rarely, shows a subtly handled cycle of five large canvases alive with references to nudes, animals and birds.
Saatchi Gallery, 98a Boundary Road, London NW8 (071-624 8299), Thursday to Sunday, noon-6pm; Rego's new work at **Marlborough Fine Art**, 6 Albemarle Street, London W1 (071-629 5161), until December 30.

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

FACE TO FACE: *Most artists who* paint portraits at all have at some time painted a self-portrait, if only because the artist is the model he has nearest to hand. Some, of course, such as Rembrandt, and in the 20th-century, Beckmann and Dix, have been obsessed with chronicling the changes in their appearance over a lifetime. This new show on the subject (the first in more than 20 years) covers the 17th to 19th centuries, and includes no fewer than nine Rembrandts — four paintings and five etchings. Later, the self-portrayers range from Hogarth, Ramsay, Reynolds and Stubbs to Conder, Sickert and Steer. Little common motivation emerges, but psychologically and artistically the extreme variations have their own fascination.
Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (0151-2070001), Monday to Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, noon-5pm, until January 8. Ⓢ

A SOLDIER'S SKETCH BOOK: Robin Watt seems in certain ways like a figure from the past, a cultivated professional soldier who also paints wherever his military career takes him. His first one-man show consists primarily of images from Kuwait and Iraq in 1990-91, but there are also landscapes and wildlife paintings from Canada, the Falklands and Northern Ireland, where he has also served.
National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 (071-730 0717). Daily, 10am-5.30pm, until February 12. Ⓢ

CHILDREN

SANTA'S SPECIAL TRAINS

Santa travels on the following *train services around the country*, giving every child travelling with him a gift.
Keighley and Worth Valley Railway, Haworth Station, Keighley (0535 645214). Today, tomorrow and every weekend until Dec 18. 10am-4pm. Tickets £6.
Middleton Railway, Moor Road Railway Station, Leeds (01532 710320). Today, tomorrow and every weekend until Dec 24, from 11am. Tickets £3.
Midland Railway Centre, Butterley Station, Ripley, Derby (01773 747674). Today, tomorrow and every weekend until Dec 24, 11am-3.40pm. Tickets £5.95.
Southport Railway Centre, Derby Road, Southport, Merseyside (0704 530693). Today, tomorrow and every weekend until December 18. From 10.30am-4.30pm. Adults £1.50, child £2.50.
Severn Valley Railway, Bewsdley, Worcestershire (01299 403816). Today, tomorrow and every weekend until Christmas Eve. 10am-3pm. Tickets £6.

CHESHIRE

Snow Queen: Family favourite based on the Hans Christian Andersen tale, produced by M6. *Met Arts Centre, Market Street, Bury, Greater Manchester (0161-761 2216). Today, 2pm and 7pm; until Jan 14.* Ⓢ

DEVON

Hansel and Gretel: Grimm's fairytale in a production by the Orchard Theatre Company. *The Plough Arts Centre, Torrington (0805 624624). Today, 2.30pm and 6.30p; The Northcott Theatre, Exeter (0392 54853). Tuesday to Saturday 3. Various times. Tickets from £3.50.* Ⓢ

LONDON

Pied Piper Musical Stories: Aubrey Woods tells favourite stories using many voices and songs to amuse his listeners. *Purcell Room, South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171 928 8800). Tomorrow, 3.15pm. Adults £4.50, child £4. Age 5-8.* Ⓢ



Follow the Pied Piper

Grimm Tales: An adaptation of eight of the German fairy-tales. *Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Today, 2.30pm and 7pm; various times until Jan 21. Tickets: adults £12, child £6.* Ⓢ

Grand Christmas Parade: Father Christmas travels from *Piccadilly to Marble Arch, with* dancers, musicians, bands, celebrities, floats, acrobats, jugglers and clowns in attendance. *Piccadilly, Regent Street, Oxford Street and Hyde Park. From 11am. Free.*

SUNDERLAND

Cartoon Art: Learn the art of cartoon illustration. *Sunderland Museum and Art Gallery (0191-514 1235). Today, 10am-noon, 1pm-3pm. Admission free. Museum opens Tuesday to Friday, 10am-5.30pm; Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 2-5pm.* Ⓢ

WALES

Swan Lake: Northern Ballet Theatre performs the classic ballet by Tchaikovsky. *New Theatre, Park Place, Cardiff (0222 304844). Tuesday 29 to Saturday 3, 7.30pm; matinées: Thursday 1 and Saturday 3, 2.30pm. From £7.*

YORKSHIRE

The Sound of Music: The live musical rather than the perennial Christmas film. *West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill Mount, Leeds (0113 244 2141). Opens today: Monday to Friday 7.30pm; Saturday, 8pm; Wednesday matinée, 2pm; Saturday matinée, 3pm. From £4.* Ⓢ

HEATHER ALSTON

Ruth Gledhill was invited to join in a quiet day of Zen meditation in south London

AT YOUR SERVICE



AS someone who read *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* at 18 and subsequently embarked on a supremely unmeditative motorcycle trip across Europe, the invitation to a day of Zen practice evoked memories of a certain, empty mindlessness that I was not keen to rediscover. I recalled one dismal passage in this book, when the narrator, faced with a stuck screw, meditates: "If your mind is truly, profoundly stuck, then you may be much better off than when *it was loaded with ideas.*" But, waking up with a mind disabled by flu, I decided to risk a day of Zen at the Sun-Ra Natural Health Centre in south London.

About 30 people sat meditatively round a small altar, constructed from two banana boxes, in a *dojo*, a word which means the "place of practice" for the meditation. They had travelled from as far as Manchester and Bristol to don their black, wide-sleeved Japanese kimonos. Everybody wore dark colours so as not to distract each other's meditations, although I, in my ignorance, was in pink. Zen practitioners claim a long history, dating from the time of the Buddha, 2,500 years ago in India. Soto Zen, today's practice, was founded in the 13th century in Japan and brought to Europe by Taisen Deshimaru Roshi in 1967. The essence of Zen is the practice of meditation, or *zazen*. According to Roshi, "In *zazen* there is no intention or search, no special *effort, no imagination. Just be*, without pretension, without dogmatism, without arrogance, embracing all contradictions."

I arrived as lunch was ending. A monk banged two planks together to catch our attention, and a request was made for volunteers to do the washing up and to fold some leaflets. The *Godo*, the person responsible for the day's events, was Deb Sage, secretary of the British branch of the International Zen Association. She sang a blessing of thanks for the food: "*Shi Shi Kai Ji Ki Kum, Ji Ren Ka Fa Ja Shi.*"

The nearest Zen temple for Britain's 250-plus practitioners is in France, but three Zen groups in London, and ten outside, meet regularly in small rooms or *dojos*.

We do *zazen*, sitting quietly for 20-25 minutes, then *kin-kin*, a meditative walk with the thumb *placed on the solar plexus* to release emotional stress, then massage, then more *zazen*. On the altar a brass Buddha looks on, not a God to be worshipped but a *meditative symbol. Beside Bud*dha is the *kyozaku*, the "stick of awakening". During *zazen*, those who ask for it are hit firmly on each shoulder with the stick to relieve tension. Near the *Kyozaku* are two photos, one of the late Nancy Amphoux, who founded the association in Britain, and one of her husband, Jean Baby, 73. Half-way through our meditative walk around the *dojo*, Deb Sage announces a halt for massage. We knead and plumb the neck, nape and shoulders of the men and women in front and behind us.

ROBIN MAYES



Practitioners of Zen, swaying from side to side to find their point of balance, in readiness for *zazen*

Some monks and nuns, wearing tapestried bibs or *kesas*, which symbolise Buddha's rejection of luxury clothes, explained the appeal of *zazen*. "It does not make your troubles disappear, they just don't throw you off balance so much," said one. The monks and nuns go through one or two *ordinations, when they make a* lifelong commitment to practise *zazen*. They are not celibate and live ordinary lives in society.

One nun, Ilsa, said: "In *zazen* everything depends on posture being correct." George, brought up as a Greek Orthodox, added: "You sit with your palms together, facing the wall, and the first thing is to ground yourself. So both knees have to be on the ground. The back of the neck is stretched, the chin slightly drawn in. You let the floor look at you, you don't look at the floor." I departed, relieved to discover my mind more full of ideas than on arrival, but with one knee painfully stuck for the next three days in the half-lotus position we had embraced.

The London Zen Group at the Sun-Ra Natural Health Centre, 26 Balham Hill, Clapham, London SW12 9EB (071-701 6905).

GODO: Deb Sage

ARCHITECTURE: Converted detached house in south London. ★

SERMON, LITURGY AND MUSIC: Largely silent.

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Vegetarian couscous, fruit salad and cream followed by a Japanese tea called *Mu*, made from ginseng and other exotic herbs. ★★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: I achieved a certain surprising, and not entirely welcome, intimacy with my own consciousness. ★★★

★ *stars are awarded to a maximum of five.*

Continued from page 1

does intend to make some concessions to the British way of death. Instead of the refreshingly blunt French "Supermarket of Death", the shops here will be called "Funeral Centres" and the transport will be black rather than the gold-sprayed hearses preferred in Paris.

One British organisation is already helping people to take control of their own funerals. The Natural Death Centre is a charity set up in 1991 to encourage alternatives to the traditional funeral. "At present," says Nicholas Albeury, the director of the centre, "less than 1 per cent of people take care of their own funerals but, as the 'green generation' ages, I expect this to rise to as high as 10 per cent." The centre offers guidance and information on the surprisingly wide number of options for shuffling off this mortal coil.

There are few legal controls over the fate of a body. As David Pryor at the Department of the Environment's press office says: "You can be buried in anything or nothing, vertical or horizontal —, you can even be buried in your back garden if you want."

In many ways, the simplest place to be buried is in your back garden. With a death certificate from the doctor and a certificate of burial from the registrar, you are free to lie for ever among the azaleas. Indeed, under civil law anybody is able to perform a funeral service, and the position under ecclesiastical law may be changing. Dr Geoffrey Rowell, Suffragan Bishop of Basingstoke, has called for lay Christians to be trained to run funerals in areas where there aren't enough clergy to go round. However, garden burial is not recommended for everyone. There may be problems if the body is near a water supply. It is wise to check beforehand with the National Rivers Authority or you may end up as a post-mortem offence under the Pollution Act. More important to the heirs is the effect of a grave on property prices. Buyers have an aversion to the presence of a previous occupant in the shrubbery.

There are alternatives for those who want to lie among the wild flowers. The council cemeteries at Carlisle, Brighton and Burton-on-Trent have set aside areas for woodland burial. Brighton insists that all burials in the woodland section of its Woodvale Cemetery be in bio-degradable coffins. Our bodies are dust, and to dust they will return. However, most modern coffins are not so environmentally friendly. "There are two problems with the traditional coffin," says John Bromilly, the director of Westminster Packaging, a box manufacturer in Kent. "Laminates and formaldehyde in the glue will tend to poison the soil and the coffin will collapse, sometimes as long as ten years after the burial, leaving a depression in the ground. In response to the Brighton idea, we set out to make a casket which would collapse more or less immediately and not release poisonous chemicals." They came up with the "Brighton Casket", a cardboard box with enough water-resistance to survive an afternoon of British rain.

Private landowners are starting to see the potential of the burial business. An acre can hold between 700 and 800 bodies, and at an average of £200 a burial that is a better yield than a field of turnips, in the short term at least. Christine Atkin and Nicholas Hargreaves own New Clarks Farm in the village of Lilbourne near Rugby. They raise sheep and cattle, but have recently decided to set aside part of their land for human beings. They have planning permission for a two-acre burial site with a possible extension to 14 acres. The field will be ready for burials within a few weeks when the access road is completed. Already 14 plots have been reserved as well as two spaces for the farm owners themselves. They will plant saplings as bodies are laid, turning the field, bit by bit, into a wood. The farm sells cardboard coffins at £49.50 and body-bags at £15, and charges £20 for digging the grave. With cars and transportation of the body in a Transit van, a complete burial could cost as little as £300.

For those who feel that a trip in a Transit van to a final rest in a cardboard box diminishes the dignity of the dead, Ken West, originator of the Carlisle Council scheme, has an answer: "Dignity is to do with what is right for a particular place. Most people are buried in chipboard coffins. There is nothing dignified about spending eternity in a material used for kitchen units."

Others would rather end their time in the sea. There are three sites approved for burial off the British coast — Newhaven, the Isle of Wight and Plymouth Sound. Licences are obtained from the local district inspector for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. To prevent pollution and alarm to bathers, there are detailed regulations on the type of coffin. It can be made of only certain materials, has to be encased in 3cwt of concrete or iron and must have holes drilled into it to allow water to enter, so helping to sink the body quickly to the seabed.

Angus Radford, the district inspector with responsibility for the Newhaven site, issues only a handful of licences each year. He tries to dissuade applicants. Burial at sea is an expensive proposition, involving not only preparation of the coffin but also hire of a boat with precise navigation equipment. The whole process is unlikely to cost less than £3,000. Also, the approved sites are far removed from Sir Francis Drake in his hammock in Nombre de Dios Bay. They are dumping grounds for spoil from municipal maintenance work, chosen not for their beauty but because no one will fish there. If this fails to deter the family, the district inspector can recommend undertakers and boat companies with experience of sea burial and provide the licence within a couple of days.

For all the alternatives, most of us will still end up in a local crematorium or cemetery.

Seventy-five per cent of the 650,000 people who die in Britain each year are cremated, more than in any country except Sweden and Japan. This is relatively new. The Greeks and Romans were great cremators, but for centuries the Christian Church objected to the practice on the grounds that bodies could not be resurrected as ash. It was not until 1885 that the practice was legalised in Britain, and since the Second World War it has been seen as the responsible alternative. However, studies over the past decade have revealed poisonous gases emerging from crematorium chimneys. The Environmental Protection Act has forced many into modifications of furnace equipment. Despite this, crematoria remain the most popular and, at around £200, one of the cheapest alternatives.

Burial in a cemetery is more expensive. The price of a plot plus internment varies from about £300 to £1,000, depending on the cemetery.

Cemeteries are facing growing problems with space. In most, there is spare room above existing graves. If you buy a double or triple plot, for instance, you are not buying spaces side by side, but one on top of another. The first body is laid at between seven and eight feet below the surface, the second at five to six feet and the third at about four feet. There has to be at least three feet of earth between the last body and the surface. The space problem in London has meant that it is now legal to use unoccupied space above coffins buried more than 75 years ago. However, in certain areas, even this is inadequate. According to a study of London cemeteries by the Institute of Burial and Cremation Administration, there is no further burial room in the boroughs of Hackney, Haringey and Tower Hamlets; Enfield and Redbridge will run out within five years; and a further four boroughs within 15 years.

> "You can be buried in the garden if you want"

The more radical option is to shift human remains to make way for new graves. Britain is unique, according to Julie Rugg, a historian at the York University Cemetery Research Group, in its strict laws on re-use of graves. In most countries, re-use is the normal practice. In the large cites of Italy, for instance, bodies are left beneath the ground for only five or six years, long enough for the soft tissue to decompose, and the bones moved to a communal "charnel house". In Amsterdam, it is normal to move bodies to a communal grave after 20 years. In Britain, it is illegal to disturb graves on consecrated ground without permission of the Church of England, or elsewhere without permission of the Home Office.

Since Victorian times there has been an assumption that the British public will not tolerate interference with the dead. In response to the coming crisis of space, the Cemetery Research Group has been commissioned to carry out a study of public attitudes to re-use. "The problem is one of priorities," says Ian Hussein, the secretary of the Institute of Burial and Cremation Administration, one of the sponsors of the study. "Urban space is limited. Would people rather lose allotments, playing fields and parks than think of their bones being disturbed in 50 or 75 years' time?"

But we are unlikely to see charnel houses or mass graves in Britain. A more likely option would be the Australian "lift and deepen" technique, where remains are exhumed and re-buried at a lower depth to allow further burials on top. In Australia, this can be done as little as ten years after internment, but in Britain, depending on the artitudes that emerge from the survey, we would probably be looking at a much longer period — ideally long enough to allow complete decomposition of the remains.

This raises the question of how long it takes a body to return to the soil. Dr John Clark, senior lecturer in forensic pathology at Sheffield University, admits that, for the particular conditions of this country, "we know very little about the decomposition of the body". There are some surprising examples of preservation. Excavation for the Hilton Hotel in Glasgow revealed bodies buried 80 years before with traces of hair and muscle. A body which has been buried deep in well-drained soil in a solid, sealed coffin can last in a fairly good state for centuries while another laid uncovered in wet shallow ground can disappear, bones and all, in as little as 15 years.

Whatever our ultimate destination, most of us will leave the arrangements to a funeral director. Clive Leverton and his brother are the seventh-generation of undertakers at Leverton & Sons of Euston. "Most funeral directors," he says, "are professional people who take a great deal of care to treat the bereaved with respect and dignity."

Prices depend on the choice of coffin and the number of cars. At Leverton, the cheapest chipboard coffin costs £55 and the most expensive oak about £2,000. The cheapest rate for a full service, not including cost of burial or cremation, is about £645. Prices vary considerably from firm to firm. The best advice is to shop around for a sympathetic company with a comfortable price. Most undertakers offer pre-payment plans and you can take out insurance against the cost of a funeral.

But whatever else, I will not even attempt immortality, having learned a lesson from Jeremy Bentham, the Utilitarian philosopher. Bentham bequeathed his body for display at University College London. It can still be viewed during office hours, on a chair in a glass case. Unfortunately, Bentham has now lost his head. I spoke to a security guard who claimed to have seen it — "Horrible it is," she said, "all moth-eaten, with those nasty glass eyes." Whatever happens to me, please save me from stuffing.

GRAHAM TROTT AND COVER PHOTOGRAPH



Like many cemeteries, Kensal Green in London faces a growing problem with space. It is now legal to use spare room above coffins buried 75 years ago

NAHASSIA



Michel Leclerc's "Supermarché de Mort" applies the technology of the food supermarket to the funeral industry

FACT FILE

☐ The Natural Death Centre provides an introduction to the burial alternatives, useful contacts and addresses, and a list of publications. Send four first-class stamps to The Natural Death Centre, 20 Heber Road, London NW2 6AA.

☐ For information on donating your organs to medical science, contact the British Organ Donor Society on 0223 893636.

☐ For information on burial at sea, contact the Marine Environment Protection Division at Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 071-238 5872.

☐ *Woodland burials:* New Clarks Farm, 0788 860604; Carlisle Council, 0228 25022; Woodvale Cemetery, Brighton, 0273 604020; Burton-on-Trent Council, 0283 508572.

☐ The first of a new Channel 4 series, *High Interest*, will be looking at the funeral business in "Over My Dead Body", to be screened tomorrow, Sunday, at 5.15pm.

Many of Britain's finest tombs are in danger of being lost for ever

Grave state of old tombs

In the days before graveyard space became a problem, graves could be more elaborate affairs than they are today. Some were marked by table tombs — huge rectangular creations with flat tops and, often, highly ornate sides. The astonishing variety and the quality of the carving on these 18th and 19th-century tombs attracts many visitors to the churchyards of the Gloucester diocese, where there are some fine examples.

"Tourists admire the skill of the masons and the lovely settings of so many of these old tombs," says Jonathan Jarvis, who administers the Gloucester Diocesan Table Tombs Fund. "But then the conversation always seems to turn to the same thing — what's inside them?"

The answer, invariably, is nothing. The tombs were not built to house the remains of the Georgian grandees that had these lovely creations erected in their memory, but to cover their graves.

And herein lies the problem. Such large, heavy tombs frequently rest on flimsy foundations — often just the disturbed soil put back by gravediggers 250 years ago — and the subsequent ground settlement has produced some interesting results.

In many churchyards, groups of tombs can be seen tilting at odd angles. In a perverse way it draws attention to the tombs' baroque splendours and the exquisite craftsmanship.

"However, tilted tombs only look attractive up to a certain stage. Once they tip over too far, a side might crack and give way, exposing the whole structure to frost. Once that happens, and water gets in, erosion speeds up and a tomb can soon look a sorry sight," Mr Jarvis says.

That is what is happening all too often at present, largely because hundreds of the tombs — there are believed to be more than 1,000 in the diocese — were built at roughly the same time and are now suffering the pains of old age.

The Table Tombs Fund, established in 1960 with money from a bequest by the late Dame Joan Evans, a distinguished local art historian, stands at £8,000, but it is not enough to do all the repairs that are needed. Recent work in the village churchyard of Sandhurst, near Gloucester, cost about £1,000 a tomb, while at Painswick, which houses the most famous collection of more than 70 table tombs and bale tombs — a variation of the style with a rounded top — the specialist conservation technique cost about £3,000 a tomb.

The author and campaigner, Hilary Lees, who lives near Dursley, is trying to persuade the Gloucestershire museum and library services to set up a travelling exhibition to educate people about the county's tombs, and to raise money for the fund. It is also necessary to educate church councils to keep a wary eye on the tombs, she says.

At Haresfield, some of the tomb sides have completely fallen away, and the same fate is fast approaching for some of the beautiful table tombs at Elmore, near Gloucester.

"Even if we can't raise all the money needed in time to save every tomb, I am hoping we can make moulds of the many carvings and inscriptions, so that they can be recreated in concrete and perhaps kept inside the churches," Mrs Lees says.

"The idea might be enough to make the stonemasons who created these wonderful tombs turn in their graves, but unless we do something now, much of this great tradition is going to disappear for ever," she says.

CLIVE FEWINS

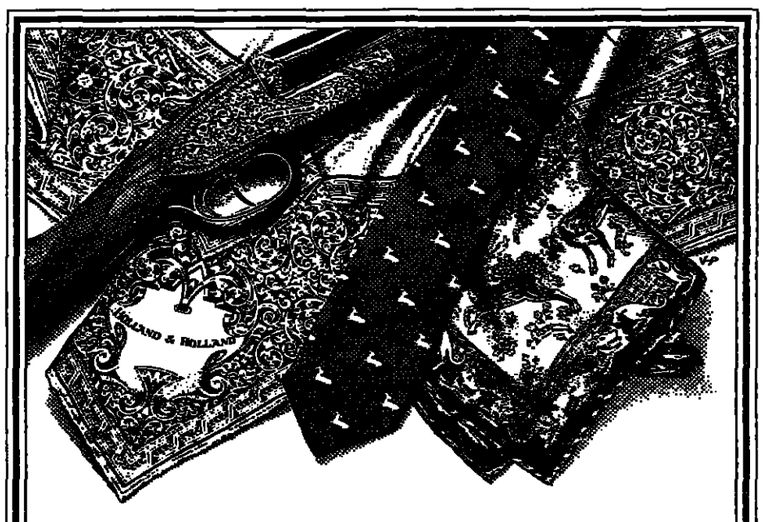
● Hallowed Ground, Churchyards of Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds, *by Hilary Lees, Thornhill Press, price £7.95.*

● *For donations to the fund, contact the Gloucester Diocesan Table Tombs Fund, Diocesan Commitree, Church House, College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LY.*

DAVID HOWELLS



Jonathan Jarvis inspects a table tomb at Standish



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Tomor 27 Nov 7.00pm (Note start time)	**MOZART: IDOMENEO** Concert performance London Symphony Orchestra, Sir Colin Davis cond Francisco Araiza, Suzanne Mentzer, Nancy Gustafson, Maria Bayo, John Dobson, Robert Tear, Mitchell Drufant. London Symphony Chorus £8 £10 £12 £15 £17.50 £20 £25 LSO Live
Tue 29 Nov 7.30pm	**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Rhonda Rees cond A Mercadante Flute Emma Johnson cl Eileen Hulse sop John Nettles, John McAndrew actors Copland Clarinet Concerto Barber Knoxville: Summer of 1915 Weill Kleine Dreigroschen Musik £8 £10 £12.50 £15 £17.50 £20 £25 Barbican Records
Wed 30 Nov 7.30pm	**HENZE'S REQUIEM** London Sinfonietta, Markus Stenz cond Hakan Hardenberger trumpet Paul Crossley piano Hans Werner Henze Requiem (in memoriam Michael Vyner) 2nd London performance All tickets £12.50 (concessions £8.50) Seats with Pillars £8

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Sunday, 27 November at 6.30pm **GEMINI** *With the Junior Choir from the Centre for Young Musicians, Stephen Jones cond Philip Grange Dies Irae (Lament des damnés) Hymn (Chorale Prelude) Judith Weir Song Rituals Sisask William Byrd & John Bull Keyboard Pieces Michael Garadocki False Relations Walks Ritornello Peter Maxwell Davies Hymnos Nine-at-Shopping Songs Dances from The Two Fiddlers* All tickets £5 (Conc. £3)

Thur 1 Dec 7.30pm	**GALA CONCERT** London Symphony Orchestra, Marvin Hamlisch cond New London Children's Choir, Marilyn Horne Selections from Richard Rodgers, Cole Porter, Bernstein, Gershwin, Copland, Plus Marvin Hamlisch The Anatomy of Peace £5 £10 £15 £20 £25 £30 £35 SOLD OUT SORRY/RESALES
Fri 2 Dec 7.30pm	**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Heinz Holliger cond Oboe oboe d'amore, cor anglais Haydn Overture in D Mozart Oboe Concerto Antal Dorati Timpo Mozart Symphony No 40 ECO's Music Box CLASSICS LIVE SPONSORED BY CABLE & WIRELESS

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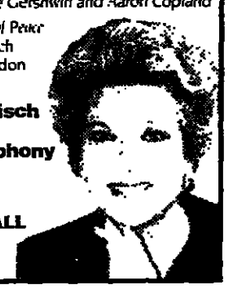
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Sun 27 Nov 6.00	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH Franz Welser-Most cond Lois Dawson, C Cairns, J M Ainsley, R Pape London Philharmonic Choir Schmidt Symphony No 4 Mozart Requiem £5 £7 £10 £13 £15 £18 *Lon Phil*
Mon 28 Tue 29 Wed 30 8.00	**SANDRA BERNHARD** "She's Back and Behaving Badly!" £15 £17.50 £19.50 £21.50 £23.50 Harvey Haas Associates Ltd
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Sat 26 Nov 7.45	***NOITE DE FADO*** Fado songs of lost love & longing sung to the accompaniment of the Portuguese guitar & its Spanish cousin. Tickets £12.50 £15 £17.50 £20 £22.50 Barbican Box Office & sales of the Fado & Flamenco CD & Cassette Prodigies Unica
Sun 27 Nov 8.15	**RICHARD GOODE** Beethoven Sonata No 14 in C sharp minor Op 27 No 2 'Moonlight' Sonata No 23 in F minor Op 57 'Appassionata' Sonata No 32 in C minor Op 111 £8 £10 £12 £15 £17.50 £20 £25 Harvey Goldsmith Artists Management Ltd
Sun 27 Nov 7.45	**CLEVELAND QUARTET** Farewell to London Mozart String Quartet No 19 'Dissonant' Mendelssohn String Quartet No 5 Dvorak String Quartet, Op 105 £5 £7 £10 £12.50 £15 £17.50 £20 Harvey Goldsmith Artists Mgt Ltd *SBC*
Mon 28 Nov 7.45	**JOHN SURMAN** The Brass Project & special guest John Taylor. One of the greatest jazz players in British jazz celebrates his 50th birthday with a new chance to hear his big band The Brass Project £5 £8 £10 £12.50 £15 £17.50 Serious Speak Out
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Wed 30 Nov 7.45	**LONDON MOZART PLAYERS** Matthias Bamert (cond) Michael Haydn Symphony in G P 15, Symphony in F P 30 Mozart Sinfonia Concertante in E flat K297b Haydn Sinfonia Concertante Sponsor: Generale des Eaux Group £18 £16, £14 £12, £9 *NMS*
Fri 2 Sat 3 Dec 7.45	**PLAN K – Charleroi-Danses. THE MICHAEL NYMAN BAND** *The Fall of Icarus*. An epic performance which combines live music & dance with video & electronic imagery £14 £12 £10 *SBC*

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Sunday 27 Nov 4.00 pm NB: starting time	KELLER QUARTET of Budapest Master Concert SKAMPA QUARTET of Prague. Mozart: String Quartet in G major K516 + Hindemith: String Quartet No 1 Radmila Bezdimtubsky violin Brahms: Quartet Op 51 No 1 (Skampa) Dvorak: String Quintet Op 97 (Skampa & Zoltan Gal violin) £14 £12 £9 £6 Wigmore Hall
Monday 28 Nov 7.30 pm	PENELOPE THWAITES piano 20th Anniversary Recital Bach: Toccata BWV 912 Mozart: Rondo K511 Chopin Fantaisie-Impromptu Op 66 3 Mazurkas Polonaise in A flat Grainger: Mr Arkwright is to the Greensmead gone Mussorgsky: Pictures at an Exhibition £11 £9 £7 £5 Swan One Music Mgt
Tuesday 29 Nov 7.30 pm	HAYDN TRIO OF VIENNA Beethoven: Piano Trio in D Op 70 Ghost Ernst Ludwig Leitner: Trio (1994) (British premiere) Dvorak: Trio in F minor Op 65 £10 £9 £8 £4 Erica Goddard Australian Institute
Thursday 1 Dec 7.30 pm	ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE Beethoven: String Quartet in C Op 29 Master Concert Kenneth Leighton: Fantasy Octet Op 87 Homage to Fenis Grainger Mozart: Clarinet Quintet K 581 All seats £7 Management ASMF
Friday 2 Dec 7.30 pm	ANN MURRAY mezzo soprano Song Recital Series GRAHAM JOHNSON piano Haydn, Berenice che fa di no Hob XXIVb:10 Brahms 6 Lieder Op 32, 6 Melodies, Irish Songs: The Lord Knows All Summer Le Parchan Mother Machree Ash Grove The Shuffling Dancers etc £18 £15 £12 (£9 concs only) Wigmore Hall
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SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER at 3 pm
FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER at 7.30 pm

GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

HANDEL Ombra Mai Fu (Handel's Largo) Arrival of the Queen of Sheba; *Messiah:* For Unto Us a Child is Born & Worthy is the Lamb **BACH** *Christmas Oratorio* Opening Chorus; Air on a G String; Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring **ADAM** Holy City; **FRANCK** Panis Angelicus **GOUNOD** Ave Maria; **CLARKE** Trumpet Suite **STANLEY** Trumpet Voluntary; **BERLIOZ** *L'Enfance du Christ* Shepherd's Farewell and **CAROLS FOR ALL**

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LONDON CONCERT ORCH, PHILIP SIMMS cond
Thomas Tallis Choir Capital Arts Children's Choir

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WEDNESDAY 21 DECEMBER at 7.30 pm

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGALONG

Come and sing all your favourite Christmas Carols inc. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, In Dulci Jubilo, Ding Dong Merrily on High, Once In Royal David's City, Hark The Herald Angels Sing, I Saw Three Ships, Good King Wenceslas, The First Nowell, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Past Three O'Clock, Silent Night, While Shepherds Watched, Angels From The Realms Of Glory, Joy To The World, Deck The Hall & many more

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THURSDAY 22 DECEMBER at 7.30pm

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Great traditional Christmas music from the golden age of Baroque including **Messiah's Christmas Music; Corelli's Allegro & Pastorale (Christmas Concerto), Handel's Triumphal Marches (Joshua & Judas Maccabaeus)** & a stunning selection of Christmas Carols from the Renaissance & Mediaeval eras through to the glorious Age of Enlightenment in the 18th Century

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EDWARD HIGGINBOTTOM director, DAVID NICKLESS treble

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FRIDAY 23 DEC & TUESDAY 27 DEC at 3 pm

TEDDY BEARS CONCERT

with **SIMON PARKIN** presenter

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COME EARLY AND MEET THE BEARS!

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BOXING DAY at 7.30 pm

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ROSSINI .....Barber of Seville Overture
HANDEL .....Music for the Royal Fireworks
TCHAIKOVSKY.....Piano Concerto No.1
BEETHOVEN .....Symphony No.5

ANTHONY INGLIS conductor
NIGEL HUTCHISON *piano*

$9.50, $14.50, $19, $22, $25

TUESDAY 27 DECEMBER at 7.30 pm

MOZART IN COSTUME

The acclaimed MOZART FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA returns with a programme of Mozart favourites to bring an elegant touch of seasonal cheer performed in authentic 18th-Century costumes.

Cosi Fan Tutte Overture, Eine kleine Nachtmusik Piano Concerto No.20, Clarinet Concerto *Symphony No.39*

IAN WATSON conductor JACK BRYMER clarinet

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WEDNESDAY 28 DECEMBER at 3.30 pm

THE SNOWMAN

presented by **ROBERT HARDY**

The magical spirit of a children's Christmas is captured in this annual performance of The Snowman, composed & written by the conductor, Howard Blake & based upon the award-winning animated film.

The programme also includes NURSERY RHYME OVERTURE, a musical guessing game for you all to join in, and Saint-Saens enchanting favourite CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS featuring THE CANN TWINS

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OPERA GALA NIGHT

Three great opera stars
in a programme of great operatic favourites including excerpts from

The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni, The Pearlfishers, Nabucco, Rigoletto, Aida, Le Prophete, I Pagliacci, La Boheme, Madam Butterfly & Turandot.

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THURSDAY 29 DECEMBER at 3 pm

BALLET GALA

PRINCIPALS & ARTISTS OF THE ACCLAIMED LONDON CITY BALLET
SWAN LAKE Dance of the Princesses"
THE NUTCRACKER Waltz of the Flowers
COPPELIA Act 1 Scene": Pas de Deux"
GISELLE Peasant Pas de Deux": Act 2 Pas de Deux"
SLEEPING BEAUTY Waltz; Wedding Pas de Deux"
LES PATINEURS Pas de Trois": "White" Pas de Deux
DON QUIXOTE Pas de Deux": **SYLVIA** Suite
"These items will be danced

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children under 16 $6.50, $8.50, $12.50

FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER at 3 & 7.30 pm

CLASSICAL GALA

CLASSIC... AFTER CLASSIC... AFTER CLASSIC...

Die Fledermaus Ov., Semper Fidelis, Nimrod (Enigma), Pomp & Circumstance No.1, Tritsch-Tratsch Polka, Swan Lake Waltz, La Donna e Mobile, Rhapsody in Blue, *Orpheus in the Underworld Ov., Skaters Waltz,* Toreador's March (Carmen), Cavalleria Rusticana Intermezzo, Sabre Dance, Nessun Dorma, 1812 Overture *with Cannon & Mortar Effects*

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A welcome return to the Royal Albert Hall stage with a special programme of Christmas & Operatic favourites in which she is joined by her daughter *Montserrat Marti.*

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THE BACH CHOIR FAMILY CONCERTS

Conductor

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KINGS COLLEGE CHOIR

A seasonal programme that includes **Bach's Magnificat, the Shepherd's Farewell from L'Enfance du Christ, Humperdinck's Hansel & Gretal Overture, Ding Dong Merrily on High, Away in a Manger** and other carols for orchestra, choir & audience.

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STEPHEN CLEOBURY conductor, PHILHARMONIA CHORUS

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In their annual Christmas Carol concert the Choir invites you to sing with them some of the best loved traditional Carols and also perform some Christmas classics such as Stille Nacht, In Dulci Jubilo, Sussex Carol, Zither Carol, Ding Dong Merrily on High, He's Got the Whole World in His Hands and many more!

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TOM CONTI *presents*

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FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER at 7.30 pm

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

BRIAN WRIGHT conductor
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CHRISTMAS EVE at 7 pm

GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

HANDEL Ombra Mai Fu (Handel's Largo) *Messiah:* For Unto Us a Child is Born & Worthy is the Lamb; **BACH** Sheep may Safely Graze; Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring; **ADAM** The Holy City; **FRANCK** Panis Angelicus; **GOUNOD** Ave Maria; **CLARKE** Trumpet Suite; **STANLEY** Trumpet Voluntary; **BERLIOZ** *L'Enfance du Christ* Shepherd's Farewell.

READINGS from *A Christmas Carol*, & the *Birth of the Infant Jesus* taken from the Scriptures and CAROLS FOR ALL.

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CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

TCHAIKOVSKY Sleeping Beauty Waltz, March & Waltz from *The Nutcracker;* **SOUSA** Stars & Stripes Forever March; **BRAHMS** Three Hungarian Dances; **LEROY ANDERSON** Sleigh Ride, The Bugler's Holiday & Christmas Festival; **JOSEF STRAUSS** Feuerfest Anvil Polka; **RIMSKY KORSAKOV** Christmas Eve Polonaise; **KLEINSINGER** Tubby the Tuba; & great popular Christmas songs inc. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, White Christmas, Christmas Song and **CAROLS FOR ALL**

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JOHANN STRAUSS GALA

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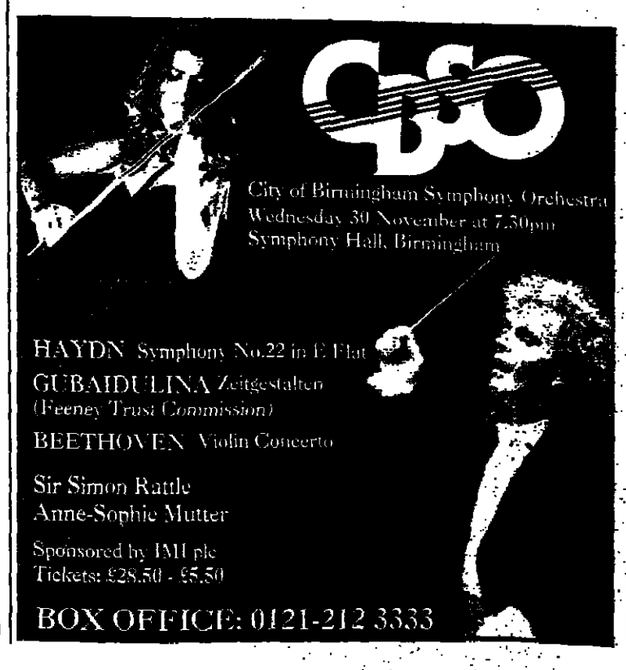
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8 DECEMBER – 21 JANUARY

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CLASSICAL CONCERTS



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Aren't 300 new plays a year enough?

Literary Question of the Week: how many British playwrights does it take to concoct a cloth-eared example of committee-speak? Such as:

"There has been a drastic decrease in the number of new plays being produced by theatres in Britain and also in the proportion of their budget each theatre spends on new plays. We believe this shows an unacceptable set of priorities. It has also sent British theatres into a decline and irrelevance, evidenced not least by their failure either to gain new audiences or keep old ones and, in many cases, by their near closure."

I love "evidenced not least". Elegant prose, or what? Some 87 playwrights, several quite famous, placed their monikers on this self-serving letter, which was sent to all subsidised theatres. Before I had read it, I supported new drama. Now I waver. If the plays of the "Angry 87" are as turgid as their agitprop epistle I am not surprised that theatres don't stage them.

Whenever arty people are determined to spatter egg on their own faces they write an open letter. Last year's Pompous Prats Prize went to the art dealers who ganged up on Brian Sewell, the London *Evening Standard*'s art critic, because he was deemed to be insufficiently deferential to the pickled-sheep school of sculpture. The result of their letter was precisely the reverse of what they wanted. Sewell is now the toast of his editor.

I fear that the Angry 87's letter may prove equally counter-productive. Theatre managers live in something called the real world, a place which playwrights really ought to study. The managers have to cater for that low-brow rabble called the General Public. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, you and me. We simply don't turn up in sufficient numbers to make large doses of new drama viable.

Indeed, were subsidy to be doubled tomorrow (and here we enter realms of fantasy uncharted even by British playwrights) there still would not be enough to pay for the demands of the Angry 87. Which are: "We ask you to undertake to produce at least three new plays in your theatre per year, at least two of which must be in your main house."



RICHARD MORRISON

Gosh, is that all? I wonder how many of the Angry 87 would sign a contract that turned their demand back on them. "You will write three new plays a year, of which at least two *must* produce packed houses in large theatres. If they don't, you will go bankrupt." This is, in effect, what they are asking of the theatre managements.

However, we all know that theatre bosses are not the real targets of the Angry 87's letter. It is, of course, aimed at the Government. The unmistakable subtext, as we say in the stalls bar, is yet another (slightly adapted) chorus of that evergreen Abba hit: "Gimme Gimme Gimme (More Cash From The Taxpayer)".

Perhaps the theatre does deserve more subsidy. Consider this, though. Bill Alexander, the Birmingham Rep's boss, declared this week that in his theatre recently "a thrilling new play by a very talented new writer played to about 20 people a night". When those responsible for subsidising the arts read this comment, how are they supposed to respond? By throwing more money at tiny numbers of people? This is not a rhetorical question: I genuinely want to know the answer.

The Angry 87 apparently believe that their demand is "very little to ask". "The very low number of new plays we are asking you to produce gives an idea of just how few are currently being shown across the country," they claim.

Well, I have been perusing back issues of *The Times*. In just one month (October) our theatre critics pounded their lonesome beat to 31 new plays, the vast majority by British writers. And no, not all were in the upstairs rooms of pubs in Fulham ("knock twice and ask for Crucial Theatre Company"). Some 13 were staged in reps outside London.

Even allowing for the looming season of Ugly Sisters and Mother Geese, this means that 300 professional productions of new plays will be reviewed in the national press this year. That does not seem a "very low" figure.

Ah yes, the new-play lobby will declare, but regional theatres no longer have the funds to commission *top* writers to deliver new plays, or top actors to perform them. They are lured off to lucrative film and television work, and take their fans with them.

That is undeniable, inevitable and unstoppable. Rich and powerful media make their stars rich and powerful, and not many will volunteer to become poor again. No, the future of "serious" live theatre largely lies in being a talent nursery, and in offering punters the thrill of discovering fresh and original voices before the mass media do. That is a vital function.

But one thing worries me. How many of the Angry 87 are capable of delivering writing that is fresh and original? "Evidenced not least" by their preposterous letter, the answer must be "not enough".

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** enjoys English National Opera's staging of Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina*

From the power to the gory

If you ever thought that Mussorgsky's "other" opera had one of the most incomprehensible plots ever devised, even by a heavy drinker, then hurry to the Coliseum. Of the many successful aspects of Francesca Zambello's new ENO production, perhaps the most striking is the clarity with which the narrative unfolds.

There are many means by which this is achieved: discreet colour-coding in Alison Chitty's costumes; a fine new translation by Carol Borah Palca that gives each faction a characteristic syntax; an absence of clutter in Chitty's decor — basically a box set and an infinitely adaptable tower.

The first thing you see is the face of Peter the Great, notable by his absence from the physical action, and by the end of the long first scene you know all about the personalities and the issues at stake in this study of 17th-century Russia and the establishment of the Romanov autocracy: the feudal Khovansky clan (black) and their private army of Streltsy (flashes of maroon); the Old Believers (warm amber light, courtesy Paul Pyant); the Tsar's representative on stage, the Boyar Shaklovity and his henchmen (green).

But when the issues are developed after this exposition, and nothing is quite what it seemed — the Old Believer, Marfa, is no stranger to the pleasures of the flesh, and the "moderniser" Golitsyn (Kim Begley got up as Charles II) eagerly has his fortune told — Zambello steers a cool-headed course through the action, drawing the audience into its implications.

And don't think they are confined to 17th-century Russia. The lively conversation in the second scene between representatives of the landowning classes, the traditionalist wing of the established church and the Euro-enthusiasts has plenty to say to an audience today.

Not that Zambello nudges us in any obvious way. She is too clever for that. Nothing is imposed from the outside, everything is drawn from within the members of an exceptionally fine cast: Anne-Marie Owens in sumptuous voice as the tortured Marfa; Willard White, using his natural authority and scarcely a whiff of ham to suggest old Prince Khovansky's power; Gwynne Howell ideally grave and serene as Dosifey; and — a remarkable newcomer — Paul Whelan as the implacable but ultimately patriotic Shaklovity. All project their words meaningfully in Zambello's admirably sober, concentrated production.

If that sounds forbiddingly austere, fear not. White-Khovansky frolicking in a steamy pool with his Persian odalisques is just the stuff for tired business-persons, and for the mass-suicide of the Old Believers Zambello devises an unashamed *coup de théâtre* that takes your breath away — and calls to mind more recent acts of immolation.

Sian Edwards enjoys her first unqualified success as ENO music director in a carefully paced account of the Shostakovich edition, discreetly accompanying the dialogues of Monteverdian purity and power and letting the orchestra off the leash for the big moments to thrilling effect. The chorus, vital in this work, is on magnificent form.

This epic staging recalls, in its sheer theatrical know-how, the famous ENO *War and Peace*. I pray its success may lead to the dispersal of the cloud of industrial dispute so sadly threatening a company swiftly recovering its old form.

DONALD COOPER



Early bath for a noble bass: Willard White plays Prince Khovansky in *Khovanshchina* at the London Coliseum

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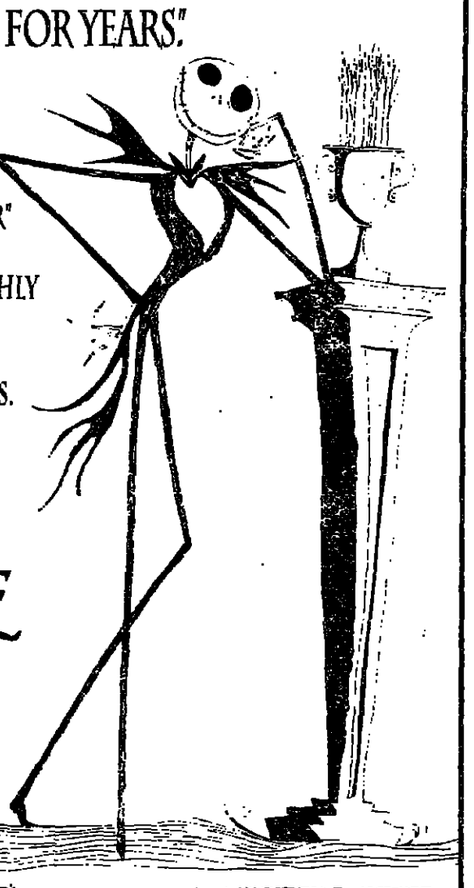
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THEATRE LISTINGS CONTINUE ON PAGE 28

WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

☐ **THE EDITING PROCESS** Stephen Daldry directs Alan Howard and Prunella Scales in Meredith Oakes's thirnish comedy about publishing malpractices **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat. 7.30pm, mat Sat. 3.30pm. Until Dec 3.

☐ **GRIMM TALES** Hansel and Gretel and Iron Hans, woven together with other tales recorded by the Brothers Grimm. Carol Ann Duffy (adapter) and Tim Supple (director) return to the pre-Victorian version of the tects and the grotesque costumes look terrific **Young Vic** 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363) Previews today, 2.30 and 7pm Opens Dec 7 7pm

☐ **HAMLET** Peter Hall directs Stephen Dillane's darkly humorous, self-deressing Prince, backed by excellent playing from Michael Pennington, Donald Sinden and Alan Dobie **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065) Mon-Sat. 7.15pm, mats Thurs and Sat. 2pm

☐ **LANDSCAPE** Pinter's production of his 1967 shortish play for two characters (Ian Holm and Penelope Wilton), interweaving the viral scenes of their memories **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Today, 12.45pm, until Dec 6

THE MASTER BUILDER Brian Cox's strong and stirring performance in late Ibsen, fearful of being overtaken, obsessed with the young and vital Sir Neal John Crowley directs **Riverside Studio 1**, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 2255). Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm

MOLLY SWEENEY Brian Friel directs his own superb play Catherine Byrne, Mark Lambert and T P McKenna voice feelings to do with blindness, illusion and much more **Almeida**, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm

MOSCOW STATIONS Tom Courtenay's one-man performance as an alcoholic lost on the Moscow Underground You probably won't see finer, more touching acting this year. **Garrick**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085) Mon-Sat 8pm.

☐ **NEW ENGLAND** In Richard Nelson's latest, a family of English exiles are brought together by disaster and must assess the world passing them by Peter Gill directs **Pit**, Barbican Centre EC2 (071-638 8891) Now previewing 7.15pm, mat today, 2pm Opens Nov 29 7pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
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☐ **Seats at all prices**

■ **OLIVER!** Lavish Cameron Mackintosh revival of the Bart musical. Jonathan Pryce plays Fagin. Sam Mendes directs. **Palladium**, Argyll St, W1 (071-494 5020) Now previewing, 7.30pm Opens Dec 8, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

☐ **ON APPROVAL** Peter Hall gives us the Lonsdale play as it was and is, a sophisticated, diverting but relatively soulless piece. Martin Jarvis is in brilliant form, with Anna Carteret, Louise Lombard and Simon Ward. **Playhouse**, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **OUT OF THE BLUE** A sung-through musical drama, composed by Shun Ishi-Tokura with libretto by Paul Sand Dowd Gilmore directs the love story set in Japan during the Second World War **Shaftesbury**, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs 3pm and Sat 4pm

A PASSIONATE WOMAN Ned Sherrin directs Stephanie Cole in Ray Mellor's entertaining, though lightweight comedy, who'd rather sit on the roof and dream than attend her son's wedding **Comedy**, Panton Street, SW1 (071-389 1731), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

☐ **THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE** Patricia Hodge's crystal vowels perfectly suit the role of Muriel Spark's inspirational but dangerous schoolteacher and carry Alan Strachan's revival across the dodgier scenes. **Strand**, Strand, WC2 (071-930 8800) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **RAISING FIRES** Dominic Dromgoole directs this LWT prize-winning play by Jenny McLeod Set in 16th-century Essex where an arsonist is at large and the town's first and only black woman is suspected **Bush**, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388) Mon-Sat, 8pm, until at least Dec 35

■ **RUTHERFORD AND SON** Bob Peck plays the implacable father of the firm and head of the family in welcome revival of Githa Sowerby's excellent play, dating from 1912 Katie Mitchell directs. **National**, (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Today, 2.30 and 7.30pm.

☐ **SIR MARTIN MAR-ALL** Dryden's comedy, seen by the enthusiastic Pepys over 20 times, but unseen by anyone else for the past 200 years. The Magnificent Theatre Company disinters the story of the confident but daft knight who turns courtship into calamity **Lilian Baylis**, Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916) Tue-Sat. 7.45pm; mats today, 3pm and Dec 2, 2pm and Nov 26, 3pm. Until Dec 3

■ **TRUE WEST** Mark Rylance and Michael Rudko alternate the roles of the two brothers, roaming cowboy and timid screenwriter, in Matthew Warchus's mostly admirable revival of Sam Shepard's drama of the divided human personality. **Donmar**, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm Until Dec 3.

LONG RUNNERS

Arcadia, Haymarket (071-930 8800) ☐ **Beautiful Thing** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) ■ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ■ **Buddy** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ■ **Cats** New London (071-405 0072) ■ **Copacabana** Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . ■ **Crazy for You** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner** Duchess (071-494 5070) **Five Guys Named Moe** Lyric (071-494 5045) **An Inspector Calls** Aldwych (071-836 6404) . ☐ **Lady Windermere's Fan** Albery (071-867 1115) . ■ **Les Misérables**, Palace (071-434 0909) . ■ **Miss Saigon**, Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) . **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) **Neville's Island** Apollo (071-494 5070) ☐ **Once on This Island** Island (Royalty), (071-494 5090) . ■ **Only the Lonely** Piccadilly (071-369 1734) . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ■ **She Loves Me** Savoy (071-836 8888) . ■ **The Sisters Rosensweig**, Old Vic (071-928 7616) ■ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . ■ **Sunset Boulevard** Adelphi (071-344 0055) **The Woman in Black**, Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW ON VIDEO: Return of Frank Drebin; Almodóvar's satire against the media

■ **NAKED GUN 33⅓: THE FINAL INSULT**
CIC, 12, 1994
RENT the film if you must, but you will hear the sound of a barrel being scraped in this third outing for Leslie Nielsen's accident-prone Frank Drebin. As the lieutenant is plucked from retirement to nail Fred Ward's terrorist, jokes tumble out with the usual speed, but most are juvenile and too many are lavatorial. A grand finale at the Oscar ceremony brings faint echoes of the Marx Brothers' mayhem in *A Night at the Opera*.

■ **HERE COMES MR JORDAN**
Columbia TriStar, PG, 1941
MR JORDAN is Claude Rains, topped off with a mane of silvery hair, the guardian angel of Robert Montgomery's boxer, who is dispatched to the afterlife by mistake and gets a second chance on earth. This comic fantasy, remade in 1978 as *Heaven Can Wait*, moves slowly for modern tastes, but the performances give quiet pleasure; the sets take us back to the good old days when no home interior was complete without sweeping staircases and marble columns. Excellent print quality.

■ **INNOCENT MOVES**
CIC, PG, 1993
ORIGINALLY called *Searching for Bobby Fischer* and now rebaptised with a terribly bland title, Steven Zaillian's impressive film makes chess visually exciting and never ignores the humans moving the pieces. Max Pomeranc is wonderfully natural as the seven-year-old hero whose outstanding gift poses a problem: should he be treated as a genius or an ordinary boy? Zaillian, writer of *Awakenings* and *Jurassic Park*, explores the true story with generous humour and imagination. Available to rent.



Naked Gun 33⅓: The Final Insult — its Oscar ceremony has echoes of the Marx Brothers' *A Night at the Opera*

■ **THE LAST SEDUCTION**
ITC, 18, 1994
SPLENDID, abrasive, amoral tale about a bad girl who gets what she wants — $700,000 — and grinds men into dust. Linda Fiorentino revels in the role of the smart New York cookie hiding out in a one-horse town, where she plots a murder and entraps Peter Berg's insurance valuer. Steve Barancik's ingenious script includes so many twists that the simple outcome may be disappointing. Otherwise, sparks fly constantly in a smart entertainment from director John Dahl, America's keeper of the *film noir* flame. A rental release.

■ **FAUSTO**
Curzon, 15, 1992
A TEENAGE orphan (Ken Higelin) finds fairy-tale success when apprenticed in the 1960s to a Jewish tailor (Jean Yanne). Remy Duchemin's highly whimsical first feature putters along, causing neither undue boredom nor enthusiasm. Fashion fans may find Fausto's outfits amusing (he makes clothes from grass and banknotes); the rest of us will wonder how such a thin little jest came into existence.

■ **THE CROW**
Entertainment Video, 18, 1994
NOTHING of interest in the urban setting of arson, drugs, violence and rain. What makes the film watchable is Brandon Lee, accidentally killed towards the end of filming, who plays a murdered rock star brought back to life. Director Alex Proyas tries lightening the mood with fastimages, but the gloom remains. Available to rent.

■ **KIKA**
Electric, 18, 1993
ALMODÓVAR'S latest boasts some strong surface attractions: bizarre clothes designed by Jean-Paul Gaultier, dotty decor, and the usual nose-thumbing satire directed against authority and the media. It is also fiercely misogynistic, lacks all heart and treats the plot like dirt. Victoria Abril cuts a striking figure as the scarred television reporter dogging the life of Veronica Forqué's make-up artiste, but I would gladly trade both for Carmen Maura, Almodóvar's favourite heroine of the 1980s. Available to rent.

GEOFF BROWN

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **CORRINA, CORRINA** (PG) Housemaid Whoopi Goldberg reawakens a household numbed by grief Increasingly predictable sentimental drama with Ray Liotta and Tina Majorino. Director, Jessie Nelson **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

DAYS OF BEING WILD (15) Wong Kar-wei's audacious portrait of disconnected lives in a dream-like Hong Kong of 1960. With Leslie Cheung and Maggie Cheung **ICA** (071-930 3647)

DEAR DIARY (15) See Critics' Choice, page 2

◆ **A GOOD MAN IN AFRICA** (15) Misjudged version of W. Lam Boy's comic novel about corruption and morality in West Africa. With Colin Friels and Sean Connery. Director Bruce Beresford. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 858997)

◆ **HIGHLANDER III: THE SORCERER** (15) Incoherent addition to the tiresome series about Christopher Lambert's wandering immortal Director, Andy Morahan **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 858997) **UCI Whiteleys** (792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS (PG) See Critics' Choice, page 2

STRAWBERRY AND CHOCOLATE (18) Sharp and ebullient plea for tolerance, sexual and otherwise, from veteran Cuban director Tomas Gutiérrez Alea. **Curzon Mayfair** (071-369 1720)

CURRENT

◆ **AIRHEADS** (15) Anarchic good-natured rock'n'roll comedy, with Steve Buscemi, Adam Sandler, Brendan Fraser and Joe Mantegna. Director, Michael Lehmann **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031)

◆ **THE CLIENT** (15) Mediocre version of John Grisham's thriller about a boy in jeopardy, with Susan Sarandon, Tommy Lee Jones and Brad Renfro Director Joel Schumacher **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

FLESH AND BONE (15) Lugubrious tale of blighted Texan lives from Fabulous Baker Boys director Steve Kloves. With Dennis Quaid, Meg Ryan and James Caan **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631) (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 663) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE MASK** (PG) Strange mask turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons Director, Charles Russell **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

MY FAIR LADY (U) Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore Directed by George Cukor **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18) Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

SECOND BEST (12) Absorbing, lowkey, tale of two damaged lives healing, with William Hurt as the Welsh postmaster eager to adopt a difficult boy. Director, Chris Menges. **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE SHADOW** (12) Laboured adventures of the 1930s crimefighter, with Alec Baldwin, John Lone and Penelope Ann Miller Director, Russell Mulcahy **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

SIRENS (15) Oxford curate and his wife mingle with Australia's bohemians Joyful, luscious romp, with Hugh Grant, Tara Fitzgerald and Elle MacPherson Directed by John Duigan. **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683)

◆ **SPEED** (15) Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15) Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy With Irene Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant **Chelsea** (071-351 3742) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

Not over until the fat lady signs

Hard-of-hearing opera lovers can now follow the words and music thanks to on-stage signing. But doesn't this distract the others?

When the curtain comes down on *Ariadne on Naxos* at the Coliseum on Thursday, one of the biggest cheers will be for someone neither singing nor conducting. He will have performed all the parts and mimicked much of the music. He will also be exhausted from sign-interpreting the opera for deaf people in the audience.

Many opera-goers who have paid handsomely for their tickets are irritated by this constant hand-flapping from the edge of the stage. One letter to *The Times* last year described the funding of sign-interpretation at opera as "despicable".

Signing has been commonplace in theatres for a decade. In opera it began with a performance of *The Merry Widow* at Buxton in 1990 and has spread to most of the main companies in Britain. But what do deaf people gain from it? One of today's leading exponents of signing is Peter Llewellyn-Jones, who will be interpreting *Ariadne*.

"Peter almost acts out the whole opera," says Gillian Barker, chairperson of Signed Performances in Theatre. "But he also follows the shape of the musical line — when the magic flute in Mozart's opera is playing, for instance, or when the Queen of the Night has her coloratura aria. He conveys the music as well as the words."

Llewellyn-Jones is a trained actor who, as he stands in dark clothes, manages by subtle body movement to suggest character and voice. In theatre he can get away with lagging a few lines behind the actors, but in opera he must keep up precisely to match words to music.

Distracting he certainly is. In a recent performance of the English National Opera's *Mikado*, one's eyes were irresistibly drawn to the frenetic interpretation of the tongue-twisting songs, and the visual comedy of Yum-Yum's threatened marriage —

She'll toddle away, as all aver,
With the Lord High Executioner

— with a gentle karate chop at the end of the line.

Llewellyn-Jones, known also for RSC, National Theatre and television performances, has raised sign-interpretation almost to a new art form. But some deaf or partially hearing people do not want artistic flamboyance.

"It's a contentious area," says Barker. "For them signing is simply a means of access, such as a white stick or a wheelchair. They do not want the sign-interpreter turned into a superstar."

What deaf opera-goers do need are good sight-lines for seeing the performers and the interpreter. If they are too close it becomes more like Wimbledon than Mozart, though some like to sit as close to the orchestra pit as possible to pick up musical vibrations. They also need ways of booking by telephone through the box office, and staff who are used to dealing with deaf people. The National Theatre in London is pioneering this kind of work.

But all this, together with having to subsidise the tickets, is expensive for opera houses and theatres, particularly if they are also providing facilities for blind people, such as described performances over headphones, and for people with other disabilities. A top sign-interpreter might command £400 per night and no specific funding is available. So sponsorship deals have to be arranged. The optimistic may feel that the arrival of the National Lottery last week, with its aims to help the arts and the disabled, may make it easier in future.

But why are surtitles not an adequate substitute for deaf people? The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, does not have signing as it regards surtitles as adequate and there have been no requests for sign-interpretation. For many deaf people, however, written English is effectively a second language. The average reading age for a profoundly deaf person is under ten, so surtitles would probably be too complicated. Anyway, the skill of an interpreter who can combine familiar British Sign Language with a sense of the emotion and the music is likely to be far preferable.

As with the wider population, opera-going is a minority activity for the deaf. ENO might expect up to 25 people attending its one signed performance that is guaranteed for the run of each opera they stage. But the standard of the interpreting needs to be high.

Maggie Woolley, herself hearing impaired, is director of Shape, which aims to improve access to the arts for disabled and elderly people. She recalls a performance of *Richard III* with a leading theatre company, which she had difficulty understanding. Yet a few months later a travelling company from Yorkshire arrived with the same play but a different interpreter — and the enjoyment was infinitely greater.

However distracted you may be if you find yourself at an interpreted performance, spare a generous thought for the figure at the edge of the stage who has to know all the words and most of the music.

The singers have to grapple with their own part — but what about the sign-interpreter during a quintet, who has to deal with five parts simultaneously?

TIMOTHY RICE

Fancy a drink with Maureen Lipman, Janet Suzman and Lynda Bellingham? See *The Sisters Rosensweig* and you'll get your chance

Three sisters to die for

THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

MAUREEN Lipman, Janet Suzman and Lynda Bellingham are *The Sisters Rosensweig*, in the play by Wendy Wasserstein. The three gather to celebrate the 54th birthday of Sara (Suzman), a successful banker living in London, a lifetime away from her roots in a Brooklyn family. Pfeni (Bellingham) is an adventurous travel writer with a theatrical English boyfriend and writer's block. Gorgeous (Lipman) is a happily married mother of four visiting London with a group of women from her local synagogue.

Their cosy — almost — reunion is invaded by Merv, a faux furrier with a taste for vulgar shirts. To the amusement of the sisters, Sara shows herself to be not so hard-headed as to remain unmoved by his interest in her.

Theatre Club members are invited to meet the cast after the performance of this successful comedy at London's Old Vic on December 1. Tickets, including top-price seats and the after-show reception, are £22 (the normal price of a seat alone). Telephone 071-928 7616 to book.

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

LONDON
Battersea Arts Centre
Dec 6-9, 11
● NOT your usual pre-Christmas fare, Tomfool Theatre's strikingly original production of *Peter Pan* uses J.M. Barrie's original novels and play to create an extraordinary exploration of Pan's and Barrie's fantasies and obsessions. Gadgets, gimmicks and fairy dust are put firmly to one side in favour of a very direct story charting Pan's often dastardly crusade against adult life. Theatre Club members can buy tickets for £6 (normal price £7.50). Tel 071-223 6557

BLACKPOOL
Grand Theatre
Dec 1-3
● TRAVELLING Opera presents two new versions, sung in English, of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* and Verdi's *La Traviata*. Two tickets for the price of one (normal prices £13 to £17). Tel 0253 28372

PERTH
Perth Theatre
Dec 5-8
● HOW can the last of the lairds of Auldbiggins survive, hold on to his lands and marry the woman of his choice? Allan Sharpe's adaptation of *The Last of The Lairds* by John Galt is a free version of the classic tale of a penniless laird and his resourceful servant. Theatre Club members can save 20 per cent on tickets (normal price £11). Tel 0738 621031



Maureen Lipman and Janet Suzman are two-thirds of *The Sisters Rosensweig* at the Old Vic — see first item

CHELTENHAM
Everyman Theatre
Dec 9-Jan 14
● NEIL Duffield's wild and wonderful adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* combines a vibrant new musical score with stunning set and costume designs. Theatre Club members can save £3 on tickets (normal prices £10 and £13). Tel 0242 224305

NEWCASTLE
Theatre Royal
Nov 29, 30
● HUGELY successful and controversial when it first opened in the 1930s, Lillian Hellman's *The Children's Hour* confronted theatregoers of the time with the horrifying consequences of their own sexual prejudices. It was also made into a Hollywood film starring Shirley MacLaine and Audrey Hepburn. The play's notoriety stemmed from its central event: a schoolgirl's claim that two women teachers, founders of a small private school, were lovers. This new production by the Royal National Theatre features Harriet Walter and Claire Higgins. Club members can buy the best available seats for £8 (normally £17). Tel 091-232 2061

THE TC GIFT SHOP IS OPEN

● THEATRE Club membership makes an ideal gift for both regular and occasional theatregoers. With money-saving offers and special events every week your Christmas present will come in handy throughout the year. Membership costs £12.50 per year and entitles members to buy two tickets for any Club offer. If you are already a member you can enrole additional members for just £10. Please telephone 0206 41662

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● PUBLISHED by the Society of London Theatre, *The Complete Guide to London's West End Theatres* is the most comprehensive source of information on all West End theatres. The guide includes full details on how to book, clear seating plans, up-to-date reference for disabled customers and a section on restaurants offering special theatre packages. The guide normally sells at £9.95 plus £1.50 p&p, but Theatre Club members can buy it for £9.50 including postage, saving £1.95. Send a cheque, made payable to West End Theatre Managers Ltd, to Theatre Guide, Society of London Theatre, Bedford Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8HQ

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TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or telephone 0206 41662 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 071-387 9673.
TO BOOK for any or all of this week's special offers, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price on the ticket you receive will be the one negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage.

RECORDINGS: Dutoit takes on *Les Troyens*; Brendel triumphs with Beethoven; Prince's *Black Album* was not worth the wait

French toast to the glories of Troy

OPERA

Stephen Pettitt

■ **PURCELL**
Love's Goddess Sure Was Blind / Funeral Music for Queen Mary, etc
The Sixteen/Christophers
Collins Classics 14252★★
BOTH of the major pieces here have previously been recorded by Robert King and the King's Consort for the Hyperion label in somewhat different form. Harry Christophers and the Choir and Orchestra of The Sixteen use Bruce Wood's new edition of the 1692 ode for Queen Mary's birthday, "Love's Goddess Sure Was Blind", which corrects a couple of details. But in the case of the Funeral Music for Queen Mary (1695), the differences are more radical.

Wood's researches indicate that Purcell wrote his wonder-



Purcell: expressive

fully expressive anthem "Thou knowest, Lord, the secret of our hearts" to replace a lost setting of the same words by Thomas Morley. The other six Funeral Sentences were sung to Morley's music, and so we hear them beside Purcell's single setting here.

The ceremony is atmospherically introduced with marches by James Paisible, Thomas Tollett and Purcell himself, recorded as if outside Westminster Abbey on the sad day itself, for six sets of dour military drums and four slide trumpets.

Purcell's other two Funeral Sentences, "Man that is born of a woman" and "In the midst of life", are here too, beside his first setting of "Thou knowest, Lord". Wood's notes suggest the possibility that these three pieces were all performed at the funeral in 1672 of Henry Cooke, choirmaster at the Chapel Royal when Purcell was a choirboy. If so, no music written by any other 13-year-old — not even Mozart himself — approaches Purcell's in intensity and assurance.

If the musicology is impeccable, so is the singing and playing. Yet in these works and throughout this 80-minute disc (it also includes the two Elegies on Queen Mary's Death and the Latin motets "Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei" and "Miserere mei") impeccability shows itself never to be quite enough. King's approach is gutsier, whereas Christophers prefers a blander beauty.

Everybody knows that Charles Dutoit and his Montreal Symphony Orchestra are specialists in the French repertoire, and a glance at their listing in the record catalogue — dominated by Debussy and Ravel — is enough to confirm it. It is disconcerting, therefore, when Dutoit himself dismisses that speciality as a "gimmick" — all the more so with the release of his monumental recording of Berlioz's *Les Troyens (The Trojans)*, reviewed right, one of the peaks of the French repertoire.

The French connection came about, apparently, because, as a Francophone in a Francophone city, he was seen by Decca as a plausible successor to Ernest Ansermet, whose lifelong association with the company (recording with the Suisse Romande Orchestra) had ended with his retirement in 1966. Dutoit's *Daphnis et Chloé* for Decca was an early success of the CD era.

If the assigning of the enormous *Trojans* project may be seen as a tribute to Dutoit, it also represents a golden handshake for Decca's veteran producer Ray Minshull, whose final recording this is.

To Minshull fell the task of co-ordinating 28 hours of recording over two and a half weeks. So vast are the forces involved — the Act I finale uses three separate instrumental ensembles and two backstage choirs, in addition to the pit orchestra, stage chorus and soloists — that the venue of St Eustache in Montreal could not accommodate them simultaneously. The offstage groups had to be recorded first and the rest dubbed on top: 64 tracks were needed in all.

Decca's project marks the first studio recording of the work in a quarter of a century — Colin Davis's classic account, with Josephine Veasey and Jon Vickers, dates from 1969 — and is also billed as the first complete recording. Berlioz, despairing of ever seeing his work on the stage, excised a scene from the first act. Most of the so-called "Sinon Scene" exists only in vocal score, and it is restored here in the reorchestration by the Berlioz scholar Hugh MacDonald.

The cast, lead by Françoise Pollet as Didon, is largely Francophone, though the Americans Gary Lakes and Deborah Voigt take the major roles of Eneé and Cassandre. Dutoit has paid close attention to Berlioz's markings in the score. "Berlioz's tempos may seem fast," he says, "but if you follow them, everything falls into place. Parts of our *Troyens* are going to sound fast to some ears, but we're only doing what Berlioz asked for."

Dutoit is conducting a couple of concerts in London with the Philharmonia in early December, which may be the last for some time: such are his commitments in Paris, North America and Tokyo that he scarcely has the time for guest conducting these days. One of the concerts (at the Festival Hall, December 8) is particularly noteworthy because it includes the British premiere of Berthold Goldschmidt's Violin Concerto, with Chantal Juillet as the soloist. Repertoire of this kind



Charles Dutoit: "only doing what Berlioz asked for"

— forgotten, tonal music of earlier decades — is increasingly occupying him. "After the Second World War there was that incredible fanaticism about new music: it was the time of nihilism and existentialism. It was not only the Nazis who were fanatical, but the whole postwar school of atonalism. Boulez and so on. Now we are more curious about these works."

When Chantal Juillet gave the premiere in Paris recently, she stunned everybody by the commitment of her playing, without a score. Goldschmidt himself was so pleased that he dedicated the concerto to her. Dutoit, too, clearly thinks the work is rather special, though with characteristic reserve, all he will say is: "It's a very, very nice piece."

BARRY MILLINGTON

■ **BERLIOZ**
Les Troyens
Pollet/Voigt/Lakes/Quilico/Montreal Symphony Orchestra/Dutoit
Decca 443 693-2 (4 CDs)★★★
CHARLES Dutoit and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra are justly renowned for the theatrical verve they bring to the concert hall. But surprisingly their ventures into opera have so far been few. That is now being rectified. Decca have engaged them for a cycle of Berlioz's dramatic works and they have begun by biting into the biggest apple of all, *Les Troyens*.

The playing time is a couple of minutes short of four hours and from the start Dutoit makes it clear that Berlioz was determined to out-Meyerbeer Meyerbeer.

He delights in the pageantry of the opera, from the battle scenes in Troy through the formal ballets in Carthage to the dying Dido's final vision of the founding of Rome. The recording is dominated by the brilliance of the Montreal Symphony, with an equally notable contribution from its chorus. The climax comes in Act IV, where Dutoit and his men give their all to the "Royal Hunt and Storm", an impossible piece to illustrate in the theatre, before later submerging themselves in the heady languour of the Aeneas-Dido love duet. In between, the woodwind suggests that all will be transitory in Carthage, even though the corn is golden and enemies are always defeated. Berlioz the realist and Berlioz the showman walk hand in hand under Dutoit's expert guidance.

A quarter of a century ago Colin Davis put *Les Troyens* back on the operatic map, both at Covent Garden and on record. That set, reissued on CD in 1986, stands the test of time well but is filled with singers whose native tongue is not French. Dutoit does not make that mistake, except where circumstances force him to choose otherwise.

Aeneas, for instance, is sung by Garry Lakes and is the most controversial piece of casting in the set. He has the beef for the role — of the good Texan variety — but his tenor sounds strained at times, with imperfections in the French. There are passages of insight, notably when Aeneas places his son Ascanius in Dido's care at the end of Act III, but he rarely effaces the memory of Davis's regular partner, Jon Vickers. Deborah Voigt is far more successful as a Cassandra who carries passion as well foreboding.

Dutoit opts for a soprano Dido, and Françoise Pollet more than justifies the choice. This is a subtle and carefully judged interpretation as Dido moves from early wariness through love to desertion. Destiny calls Aeneas, and Pollet makes much of the final scene as Dido, like Norma before her, confronts the funeral pyre.

The smaller roles are all expertly taken, with Chorebus (Gino Quilico), Iopas (Jean-Luc Maurette) and Hylas (John Mark Ainsley) in the forefront. A small scene involving the Greek spy, Sinon, has been reinstated in a *Trojans* which spans the Mediterranean waterfront with considerable majesty.

JOHN HIGGINS

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ **BEETHOVEN**
Piano Sonata Op 2
Alfred Brendel
Philips 442 124-2★★★
THIS is the trilogy of early sonatas which Beethoven dedicated to Haydn: and who better to disclose the converse between the two composers than Alfred Brendel? Recorded at Snape last February, this recital is one of Brendel's triumphs. The F minor Sonata tiptoes steadily, at times mischievously, into its exploratory journey, enjoying the self-propelling momentum of the rhythmic foreshortenings and the nods and winks of its tricksy cadences.

The second of the group, in A major, starts as if it could spring off in almost any direction — and it does. Brendel makes the most of its rhythmic and harmonic vagaries, its gurgling scales, and the "cosmic thunderstorm" he hears in its rondo finale. Only the slow movement is just a little too self-conscious for its own good.

Brendel hears and plays the Sonata No 3 as a little, self-contained concerto. A brightly variegated "orchestral" tutti introduces a piano part which goes on to search out the surreal in a deeply-felt, almost Schubertian slow movement and a richly comic Scherzo.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **SIBELIUS/BRUCH**
Violin Concerto/Scottish Fantasy
Midori/Israel Philharmonic Orchestra/Mehta
Sony SK 58 967★★
THE ways of record companies are truly baffling. Only six months ago, Sony put out an excellent new recording of Sibelius's Violin Concerto by the young American virtuoso Julian Rachlin and Lorin Maazel. Now the same company offers us the same work with Midori and Zubin Mehta. No doubt the calculation is a hard commercial one, and no doubt, too, it is useless to bemoan the lack of adventurousness in repertoire.

Having said that, it is good to have the new recording, for Midori's is a distinctive voice in a musical universe often perceived to be lacking in individuality. Every phrase of hers is like a polished jewel: she takes hold of it, turns it around, and treats it with exquisite craftsmanship. The technical problems of the solo part hold no fears for her, and there is never any suggestion that it is they rather than she controlling the proceedings.

Midori's approach does not appeal to all tastes, however. Her almost obsessive refining of phrases is felt by some to be mannerist and self-regarding. Those likely to be irritated might prefer Rachlin's magnificent account, which lives a little more dangerously and has the benefit of the seasoned Sibelian Lorin Maazel as accompanist. An alternative is yet another fine Sony record-



Midori: distinctive voice

ing: Cho-Liang Lin with Esa-Pekka Salonen.

But Midori's playing is unfailingly musical, and if there are moments when momentum is briefly lost, the price is a small one to pay for poetry and understanding of this calibre.

The *Scottish Fantasy*, Op 46, by Max Bruch is an attractive coupling. Its prevailing mood of sweet melancholy finds a sympathetic exponent in Midori, while the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under Mehta provides idiomatic support in both works.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **STAN KENTON**
Stan Kenton's West Side Story
Capitol CDPS-29914★★
IT was the satirist Mort Sahl, I think, who came up with the smartest one-liner about Stan Kenton's bombastic orchestrations: at a club where the band was booked to play, a waiter dropped a tray full of glasses. When they heard the sound, two couples got up to dance.

The grandiose ambitions and epic scale of Kenton's so-called "progressive" arrangements were what attracted so many admirers, convinced that they had at last discovered the Holy Grail, a genuine marriage of jazz and classical music. From others less sympathetic came mutterings that Kenton had come up with nothing more than glossy film scores.

His version of *West Side Story* is precisely that — glossy and very loud at times, but nevertheless a distinctive example of what he could achieve when working within his limits and not using a battering ram to force his way into the classical pantheon. Performed by his so-called "mellophonium band" (built around a section containing that rare brass hybrid), the album won a big-band Grammy when first issued in 1961.

Bernstein's streetwise score — dynamic, brassy and often unashamedly sentimental — forms a sturdy launch pad for the bold syncopations in Johnny Richards's arrangements. If the horn sections go over the top on "Somewhere" or "Tonight", they are still not taking too many liberties with the original concept.

The ebb and flow of percussion and reeds on "America" and "I Feel Pretty" make an exhilarating combination. "Officer Krupke" drifts along before exploding into a cascade of fireworks. Kenton is much more interesting when he is being a showman rather than the next Gustav Mahler.

POP SINGLES

David Sinclair

■ **LITTLE AXE**
"Ride On (Fight On)"
Wired/M&G 28★★
GUITARIST Skip McDonald, bass player Doug Wimbish and drummer Keith LeBlanc have a distinguished history together, originally as the Sugarhill House Band (backing Grandmaster Flash on "The Message"), and latterly as part of Adrian Sherwood's Tackhead project.

Little Axe is their new group and "Ride On (Fight On)" their debut single. With a grumbling, rumbling mixture of hip-hop beats, airy reggae harmonies and a croaky old bluesman's voice counting off the places from which inspiration springs — "Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama" — it is a trancey, rhythmic blues trip to the millennium and beyond.

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

■ **PEARL JAM**
Vitalogy
Epic 477861★★
LEADING Pearl Jam swiftly back into the fray, singer and lyricist Eddie Vedder stirs up a hornets' nest of emotions with some furiously exaggerated performances on *Vitalogy*.

His anger is contagious, and on numbers such as "Corduroy", "Satan's Bed", "Last Exit" and "Whipping" the group performs with the kind of tightly focused, whirlwind energy which does not sound that far removed from the iconoclasm of new American punk acts such as Green Day and Offspring.

Despite some shortcomings, *Vitalogy* is a supremely alert and vigorous album by a band whose authenticity has been called into question more often than seems fair. Vedder can certainly be accused of many faults — neurotic insecurity, lack of humour, rampant egotism — but after this display, the burning sense of mission which he and Pearl Jam bring to their music can no longer be in doubt. As a creative force, it is grunge which is dead. With this album Pearl Jam have left the corpse far behind.

□ **PRINCE**
The Black Album
Warner Bros 9362-45793★
MYSTERIOUSLY withdrawn from circulation just days before it was scheduled for



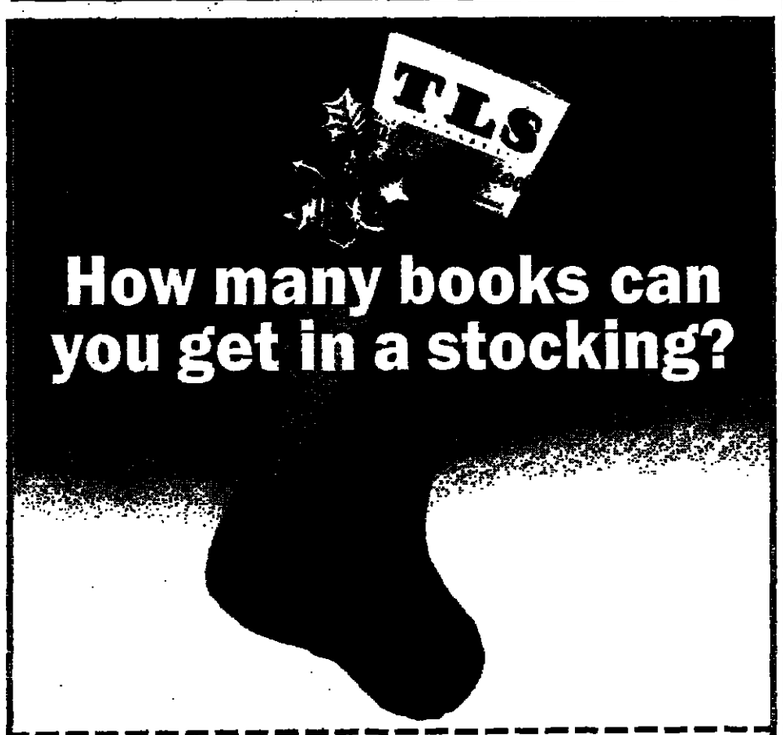
Prince: lese-majesty

release in 1987, *The Black Album* has only been available as a rare and expensive bootleg, until now.

Although ahead of its time when first due for release, it has been overtaken by subsequent developments. The violent narrative and expletives of "Bob George" now sound tame compared with the excesses of modern gangsta rap, and as for the salacious ramblings of "Superfunkycalifragisexy" and "Rockhard In A Funky Place", Prince has outdone them himself, with wearying frequency, on subsequent releases.

Take away the frisson of controversy surrounding *The Black Album* and there is not a great deal left to get excited about. Although it was a trailblazing cult item in its day, listening to the album now, one cannot help but wonder whether it was actually abandoned rather than withdrawn.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*



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3 BBC RADIO 3 90-93 FM

My royal memorabilia and I

From paper handkerchiefs to mugs by the million, the lives of our monarchs are chronicled by souvenirs

The profusion of royal mugs, flags and plates fighting for space with carrier bags and cutlery on the floor of *Michael Moon's house* lead you to one inevitable conclusion: *nothing* attests to our first family's grip on the public consciousness as much as the sheer volume of commemorative material it inspires.

In this world of royal memorabilia, celebration of coronation, birth, marriage and royal visit, and remembrance of divorce and death can be expressed in countless ways. Mr Moon will take you through his royal tins and trays for which he has never paid more than £5; his beer bottles and socks; his jigsaw puzzles and medals, and still only tickle the *surface of his* 2,000-piece collection. Two jigsaw puzzles, *incidentally, commemorating* the 1981 wedding of the Prince *of Wales to* Lady Diana Spencer cost him less than 50p each at a car boot sale.

Even a collection of this size represents only a fraction of what royal events have generated down the years. According to Steven Jackson, secretary of the Commemorative Collectors' Society, well over £200 million worth of royal memorabilia was on the market for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 alone.

Four years later, commemoratives for the marriage of the Prince of Wales were estimated to have been worth £383 million. Well over 2,300 different designs of items were available at the time. Mr Jackson says. Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 spawned a huge range of memorabilia as well.

Mr Moon started his collection thirty years ago. He was looking for cups for his new house, walked into a saleroom and bought a trayful of royal commemorative mugs for two shillings and sixpence (12½p).

"Shortly afterwards I put an advert in my local newspaper saying 'coronation mugs purchased'. I ended up with 43, many from the Coronations of Edward VII, George V and George VI," he says. He now has about 500 mugs. Two



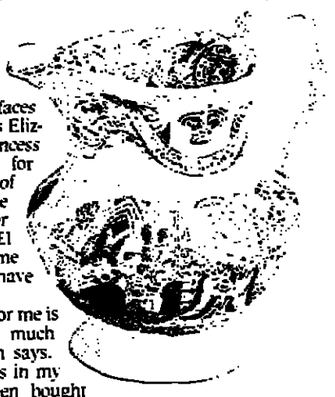
Edward VIII hairbrush, 1937: George VI and Queen Elizabeth chocolate, 1937

months ago for his birthday he was given a child's mug (£28) decorated with the faces of the then Princess Elizabeth and of Princess Margaret, issued for *the Coronation of* their father George *VI in 1937. Together* with two pencils (£1 each) from the same event, he could not have asked for more.

"The fun of this for me is in not spending much money," Mr Moon says. "Many of the items in my collection have been bought for under £10. It's an economical way of being patriotic. What I really wanted to do was to get a panoramic view of royal events as seen by your average person in the street. So I'm looking for spontaneous shows of affection which were not necessarily designed to be kept longer than the day of celebration."

By those ephemeral terms alone he can boast a paper handkerchief for the funeral of Edward VII in 1910, a bar of chocolate (£3) in a George VI Coronation wrapper, a hair grip (£2.50) on its original card from the Queen's Coronation in 1953, paper plates from her Silver Jubilee and carrier bags and an aluminium milk bottle top from the 1981 royal wedding.

Although the earliest known royal commemorative is a gold medal given to high officers of state and members of the court for the Coronation of Edward VI in 1547, and the earliest royal mug dates from the accession to the throne of



William IV and Queen Adelaide Coronation jug, 1831

Charles II in 1660, Mr Moon's collection begins with a mug celebrating the Coronation of George IV in 1821, for which he paid £25 seven years ago.

Collecting royal memorabilia is hugely popular, Mr Jackson says, simply because of the vast amount of material available. Eighty per cent of the 2,500 British membership of the Commemorative Collectors' Society collect royal memorabilia. Some 83 per cent of everything issued in the commemorative line, be it for sport, politics, military occasions, religious festivals and anniversaries, is for royal events, he says.

The Society itself is just issuing a limited edition of a hundred plates (£36.80 each) and a hundred beakers (£18.50 each) to commemorate the Queen's recent visit to Russia.

Many of Mr Moon's mugs

KIM SCOTT-CLARKE



Mr Moon with an 1862 plate celebrating Prince Albert's life

occasionally find themselves in the window of his huge antiquarian bookshop in Whitehaven, Cumbria. For every major royal event he clears the books from one window and fills the space with his royal commemoratives.

A tea service from Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887 (six cups, saucers, plates, sugar basin and cream jug) is usually there, so too are stacks of flags, a pottery bowl showing Queen Victoria reviewing troops (£65), a 1977 Silver Jubilee football, a 1953 Coronation thermometer, egg cups, ash trays, a mug commemorating Queen Victoria's wedding to Prince Albert in 1840 (£60), and a 1953 Coronation hearth rug with faces of the royal family (£30).

Recent revelations about the Royal Family have not dimmed Mr Moon's enthusiasm for them. "The alternative is just too horrendous to contemplate. You know what you're getting with the Royal Family. And if you've ever seen them passing by it was always a day to remember."

CHRISTIAN DYMOND



Edward VIII mug containing coronation pencils from 1937 and 1953

Fact file

- ☐ Commemorative Collectors' Society: 0602 727666 (from Wed. Nov 30: 0636 704179)
- ☐ Brighton Museum (0273 603005). Royal memorabilia (pottery and porcelain). Open 10am-5.30pm except Wednesday. Sunday 2pm-5pm. Free.
- ☐ *Miller's Royal Memorabilia* by Eric Knowles (Mitchell Beazley. £14.99).

SALEROOM

PREVIEW

☐ The dealer **Chris Beetles** holds *his annual exhibition of British* illustrations in London today and *tomorrow*. Artists include H.M. Bateman, William Heath Robinson, and Peter Brookes of *The Times*. Prices, £100 to £24,000.

☐ Attractions today and tomorrow at the third annual open weekend in **Cork Street**, the London mecca of contemporary art, include Aboriginal and sporting paintings.

☐ *Star offering at* **Christie's** evening Impressionist sale on Monday is a jewel-like painting of a flower garden by the Viennese Secession artist Gustav Klimt (estimate "in excess of £3 million").

☐ Highlight at **Sotheby's** sale of music manuscripts on Thursday is a newly discovered symphony by Schumann at £700,000 to £800,000. A letter by Beethoven could fetch £15,000 to £20,000.

☐ John McEnroe and Andy Warhol are among personalities who have donated works of art to an auction at **Sotheby's** on Thursday *in aid of Greenpeace.*

☐ Work by women artists through the centuries will be on sale at Christie's in Glasgow on Thursday. Best known is Gwen John, whose watercolour of chrysanthemums in a vase is estimated at £3,000 to £5,000.

REVIEW

☐ Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber paid £842,000 (nearly ten times the estimate) at **Christie's** for a set of four William Morris tapestries *telling the Arthurian legend "The* Attainment of the Holy Grail". *When they appeared there in 1953* they fetched 370 guineas (£388.50).

☐ A jewel-encrusted "Winter Egg", given by Tsar Nicholas II to his mother in 1913, sold for a record £3.5 million to an anonymous buyer at **Christie's** in Geneva.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Chris Beetles, 8 & 10 Ryder Street London SW1 (071-839 7551). Cork Street Open Weekend, W1 (information, 071-734 8903). Christie's, 8 King Street, SW1 (071-839 9060). Sotheby's, 34 New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080); for Information on Greenpeace or the "Art for our Planet" sale, 071-381 1324. Christie's Glasgow, 164 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 (041-332 8134).*

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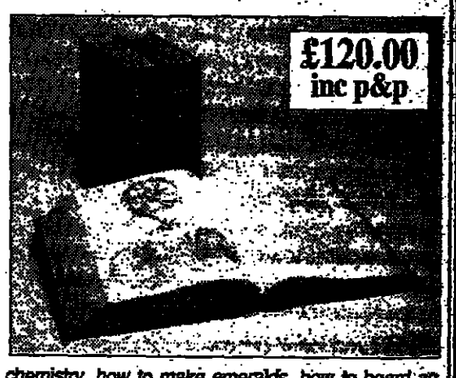
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George Plumptre, The Times Gardener, unearths unusual seasonal presents for garden lovers

Dig up a special gift

To some people, dried flowers conjure up a Trollopian (Joanna) vision of bunches hung over the Aga in a Wiltshire rectory. But dried-flower design is becoming fashionable, and for garden enthusiasts the most chic decorations this Christmas will not be holly with glittering balls and frosted bells, but swags and baskets of dried fruit, vegetables, flowers, seeds, fir cones, nuts and moss.

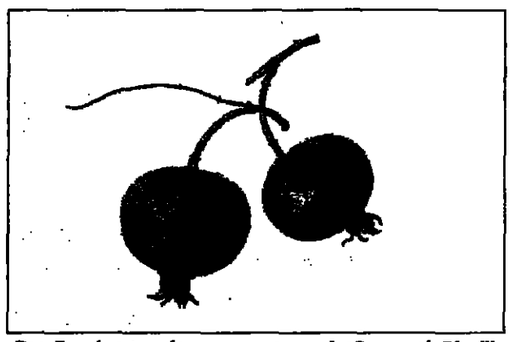
Russell Longmuir, whose shop, *Cameron Shaw*, in Chelsea, west London, specialises in innovative dried designs, says the warm, natural look and textures of dried flowers are appealing alternatives to traditional evergreens.

The centrepiece of his shop is a life-size Harlequin. Fixed into the wire-frame body, the diamond-pattern costume is made up of dried yellow curry flowers, red celosia and white anaphalis, divided by thin lines of bullrushes. The arms are covered in apple slices, the hands and face with nut-brown eucalyptus leaves. The model is playing a violin of oak leaves, which has dried poppy heads as its tuning pegs and a bow and strings of willow.

Figures like Harlequin can be made to order and cost about £2,000. Smaller items for Christmas presents include wooden baskets filled with mixtures of cones, lotus heads, artichokes, deep-red chilli peppers, roses, proteas, sliced grapefruit and palm caps. These start from about £30. Similar ingredients are put together in swags for Christmas decoration.

A pair of classical wooden pillars with a twisted rope pattern of large magnolia leaves is another eye-catcher. The leaves have been dyed black and preserved in glycerine, as are all the ingredients that are not dried.

Topiary plants in pots make unusual gifts, and the Romantic Garden Nursery at Norwich specialises in a range of these decorated for the festive season. Clipped box animals and birds are adorned with bows, as are standard hollies which have been clipped into balls or pyramids.



Pencil and watercolour pomegranates by Susannah Blaxill

Most of the topiary plants can be ordered by mail from a catalogue, but those living near the nursery can see the complete range, from box, holly and yew to fountains in green privet, or gooseberries, golden euonymus and burgundy-red cotinus clipped to immaculate standards. The smallest standard box tree ball costs about £20, a privet fountain up to £500.

Anyone interested in flower paintings will applaud the publication of the 1994 edition of *The Art of Botanical Illustration*, by Wilfred Blunt and William T. Stearn. First published in 1950, the book has been reissued by the Antique Collectors' Club. The illustrations combine botanical accuracy with artistic quality. The text describes the chronological development of botanical illustration from its origins in ancient civilisations to the 20th century. Artists' biographical backgrounds are mixed with description of how the stylistic treatment of plants changed from period to period.

Botanical illustration had its golden periods in the late 17th and early 18th century in Holland and France, and in the early 19th century in Britain. Evidence that the art survives will be seen at the St James's gallery of Spink & Son, from December 1-23, at an exhibition of work by the Australian artist Susannah Blaxill.

Forty watercolours depict fruit and vegetables with extraordinary clarity, the effect of many heightened by being painted on black paper in a manner similar to the 18th-century German botanical artist Dietzsch. Such continuity in craftsmanship goes with the ability to create a totally lifelike study. The watercolours start at £250.

The ranks of practical gardening gifts seem endless, but in the Organic Gardening Catalogue, published by HDRA (the Henry Doubleday Research Association), one item answers a letter from a reader after my column a few weeks ago on the war against slugs. She recommended the type of slug-trap that you fill with beer. The HDRA catalogue includes a pack of three green plastic pot-traps with lids (£8.50), which you part fill with beer and put next to threatened plants.

During the past few weeks I have planted a large number of tulip and other bulbs, but have not had exactly the right tool to hand. Bulldog's rockery trowel seems to be the answer: it has a specially narrow blade, 6in long and about 1in wide, with a sharp tip for working in small spaces (£8.19). The firm also produces a spade which would have been useful for the plant-moving I have done: it is lighter than usual and has a long, narrow blade (11in by 5in) for digging deep holes (£27.99).

A decorative detail can transform the appearance of a small garden. CP Ceramics offers frost-proof terracotta ornaments set on long metal spikes that go in the ground. The patterns include fleur-de-lis, ball, candle and flame. Any of these would look very effective if used to punctuate the corners of miniature box hedging or as part of the pattern of a formal herb garden. Prices from £9.99 to £11.99.

JAMES MORGAN



A pillar of dried flowers and fruits from Cameron Shaw

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Recent mild weather may have caused mildew or leaf disease in greenhouses. Yellow or dead leaves should be removed immediately. While the conditions continue, ensure good air flow.*
- *Wireworm problems have been exacerbated by the mild November. Large carrots stuck into the ground a yard or two apart can be an effective bait. (replace as necessary).*



Bulldog's weeding trowel

Garden gift stockists

- ☐ Cameron Shaw, 279 New King's Road, London SW6 4RD (071-371 8175). The Romantic Garden Nursery, Swannington, Norwich NR9 5NW (0603 261488).
- ☐ *The Art of Botanical Illustration*, by Wilfred Blunt and William T. Stearn (Antique Collectors' Club, 5 Church Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1DS [0394 385501], £29.95).
- ☐ The Organic Gardening Catalogue, HDRA, Ryton Organic Gardens, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry CV8 3LG (0203 303517).
- ☐ "The Kitchen Garden Exhibition", featuring the work of the artist Susannah Blaxill, December 1-23, at Spink & Son, 5-6 King Street, London SW1Y 6QS (071-930 7888).
- ☐ Bulldog Tools (0942 44281). CP Ceramics (071-247 4223).

GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q Is it possible to transplant successfully a *Garrya elliptica* planted too close to a *Viburnum farreri (fragrans)* three years ago? Both are 4ft high. — Sylvia Saunders, Witham, Essex

A It would be easier to transplant the viburnum: the matted, fibrous roots of this autumn and spring-flowering shrub will withstand disturbance. But if the garrya must move, it can be dug out with a large rootball next March giving priority to the garrya over the viburnum where the roots overlap. You may need to stake it for a few months to help the new roots to get a grip.

However, might it not be possible to retain both shrubs where they are, but to keep the garrya hard-pruned to a framework? Garryas are beautiful in winter with their long, green tassels of flower, though a drab evergreen for the rest of the year.

I grow the male-flowered 'James Roof', which has catkins 8in-14in long. The rarely seen female bush, has catkins only 3in-4in long, but the tassels of maroon berries are a compensation.

Q Whitefly thrive in my greenhouse, despite sprays and smokes. Is the parasitic wasp a practical answer? And could I introduce it now, as the whitefly are still active? — L.A. Badham, Gloucester.

A This biological control for whitefly is effective in any sized greenhouse or conservatory when correctly managed. The tiny wasp, *Encarsia formosa*, lays its eggs in the whitefly larvae, destroying them in the process. But for the wasp to thrive, temperatures must be more than 64F/18C.

The parasites are available from Defenders, Freepost, PO Box 131, Ashford, Kent, TN25 5BR. A list of compatible chemicals is sent out with the parasites, so you may continue to spray for other glasshouse pests if necessary.

Q Can you recommend a replacement for ivy on a west-facing garage wall. I would like something more attractive, manageable, possibly flowering, and not a hazard to children. — J. Weeks, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

A Try the purple-leaved grape vine, *Vitis vinifera* 'Purpurea', which has rich autumn colours. Through it, you could grow a couple of clematis, the large-flowered 'Mme Edouard Andre' (rich crimson) for May to July, and the smaller-flowered 'Minuet' (white-banded pale purple) for July to September. Set on a garage wall there would be no more volume of prunings than from ivy.

● Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.

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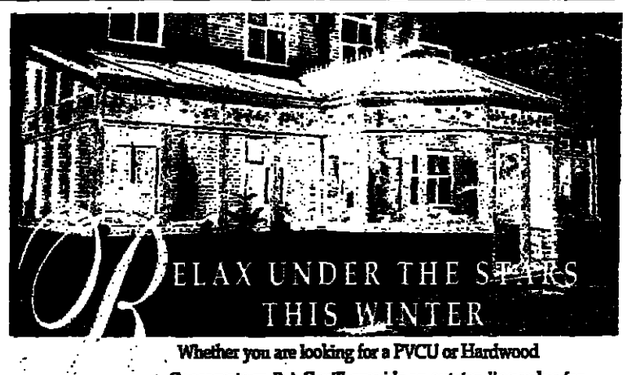
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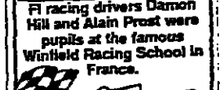
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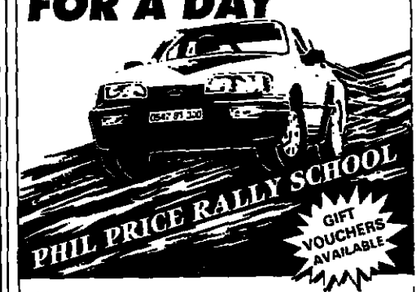
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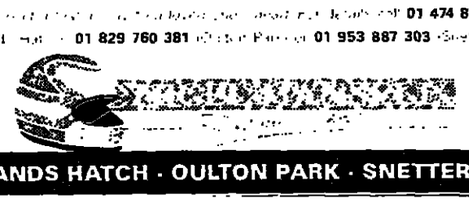


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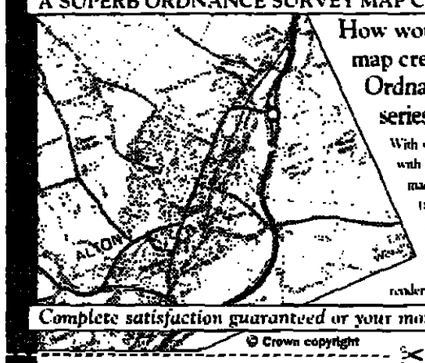
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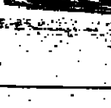
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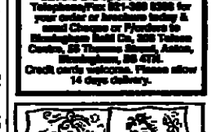
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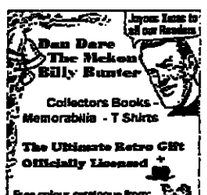
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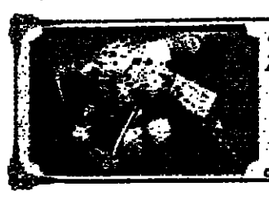
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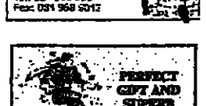


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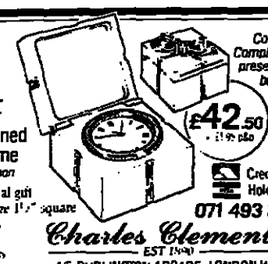


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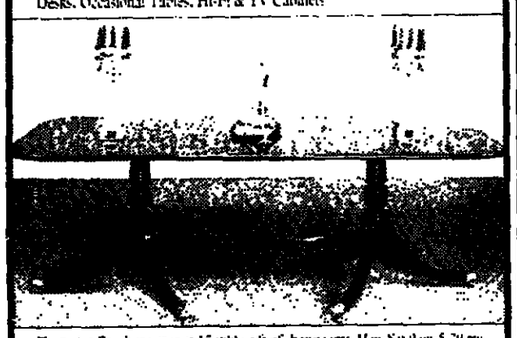
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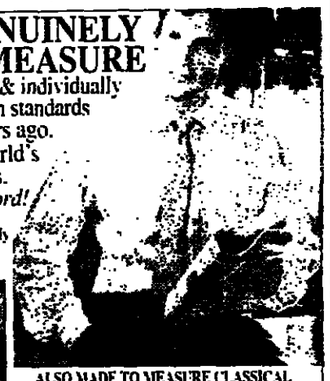
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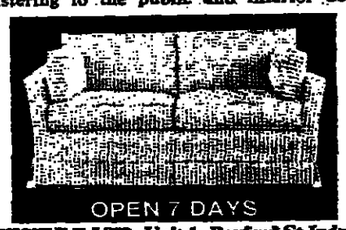


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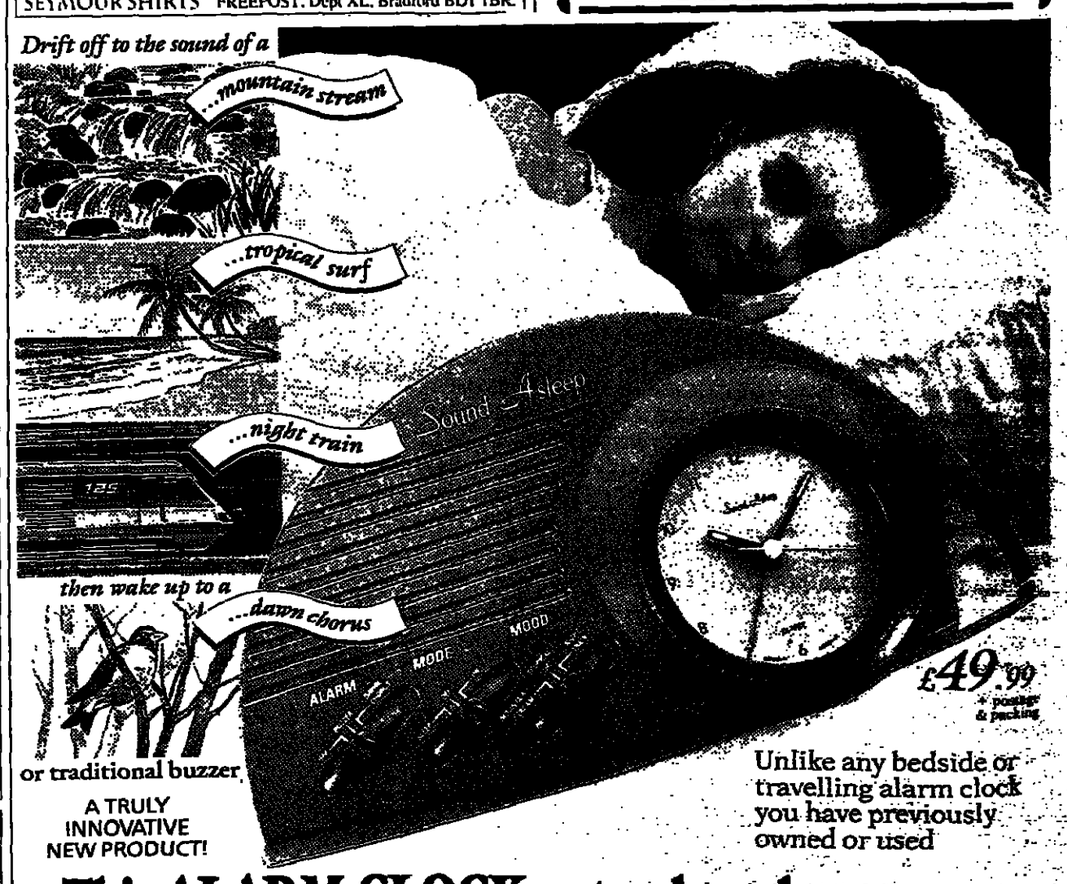
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Toys to turn learning into child's play



Traditional toys are making a return, providing education as well as hours of fun

This Christmas we are witnessing a revival of the more traditional, long-lasting, well-designed toys that will also add a genuine decorative touch to children's rooms. More importantly, a well thought out toy can help a child's development and education. A recent survey by speech therapists cited high-tech toys as a deterrent to child development and called for a return to traditional toys which need a child's imagination to animate them.

One manufacturer dedicated to this philosophy is The Hill Toy Company. Most of its toys are educational as well as visually appealing. "We've deliberately chosen toys that children will enjoy and that parents are happy to see on their shelves," says Janey, Countess of Hillsborough, who runs the company. "They are the sort of toys that will last for generations."

These include a Roller Coaster Bead Frame (£55), My Pal Spotty, a wooden pull-along dog that wags its whole body when led by its lead (£24.95), a wooden doll's pram (£69.50), and a wooden doll's high-chair that converts into a table and chair (£12.95).

The Hill Toy Company also has an exclusive line-up of pretty dolls' houses which range from a basic one-storey house to a Dutch-style town house. Prices range from £49.95 to £145. It has now introduced a range of giant animal-head masks, including a lion, giraffe and crocodile, for £6.95 each.

The Early Learning Centre, renowned for its high-quality educational toys, has dressing-up outfits including a policeman and firefighter (£3.99 each) and a doctor and nurse (£8.99 each) to which you can now add a new toy, a Doctor's Case complete with instruments (£14.99).

Other new toys from The Early Learning Centre are a Play Shop for small children (£29.95) including price tags, telephone and mini carrier bags, into which your child can put a Christmas Dinner (£5.99), which features turkey legs, brussel sprouts, roast potatoes and Christmas pudding. There is also a delightful traditional wooden railway set (£19.99), which has colourfully painted buildings, trees, an engine and carriages to play with around a wooden track.

For older children, there are a number of colourful and educational puzzles, such as the challenging 200-piece Animals of the Wild (£4.99) for six to ten-year-olds. You could also start an interest in all things green-fingered with the Sow 'n' Grow kit (£4.99), which comes complete with six mini flowerpots in a see-through greenhouse with its own soil, seeds and colourful bug stickers.

The wooden toy theme has been picked up by several toy manufacturers. Min and Dell, a mail-order company, has a high-quality range of wooden animals sold in sets, including Jungle World (£29.95) and Dinosaur World (£34.50). It also sells a range of colourful wooden animal puzzles: a Sitting Cat (£16) and the seasonal Robin (£15).

Habitat has excelled itself this season with a beautiful collection of brightly-coloured hand-painted wooden toys. A free-standing blackboard (£35) is made in Sri Lanka as is a fabulous red fire engine (£15). A bright red, green and blue puppet theatre (£45) will provide hours of fun with finger puppets (£3.95 for a pack of five) for children who like to let their imaginations run wild. A multi-coloured rocking horse (£55), also made in Sri Lanka, is big enough to cater for a wide age range and sturdy enough to last for years.

Board games are perennial favourites for older children to play with adults. The Green Board Game Company produces Alpha Nature (£17.99) for children of eight and over, which is so ecologically sound that even its tokens are natural objects, including a eucalyptus seed pod, bakuli nut and silver birch twiglet.

The Science Museum has a large selection of hand-crafted, traditional wooden games with an educational slant in its shop, and a smaller collection available through its catalogue. Games in the catalogue include the Lost Marble Game (£7.99), which involves moving marbles through a maze inside a carved, wooden box, and Labyrinth Challenge (£19.99), another wooden maze box, this time with handles so you can tilt the box to guide the balls.

Stocking-fillers can be a minefield. Cheap, little items are often cheap for a reason, so check that they have a kite mark and conform to British standards.

The Early Learning Centre has a sprinkling of items that will happily fit into little fingers, such as puzzle books (£1.99 each) for hours of colouring and puzzling activity, pens with washable ink (£1.99), farm animals shapes (£1.99), and paintboxes (£3.99).

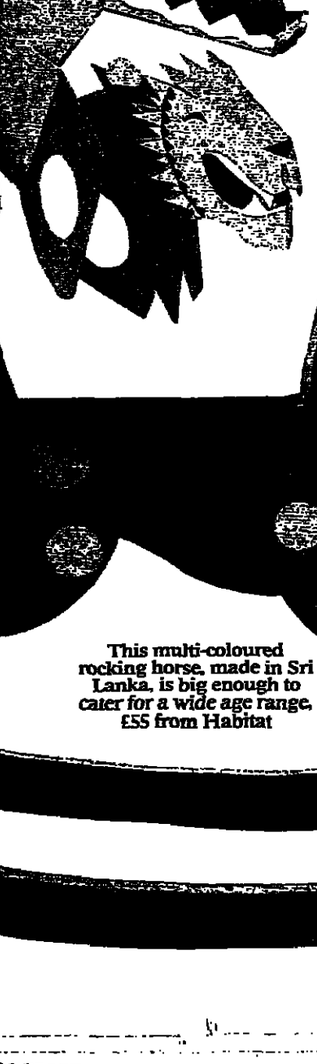
Ikea has a large range of reasonably priced small items, including a colourful rattle (£2.50), traditional snow-globes (90p each) and a cuddly koala (£1.80). At Habitat, you can pick up a pull-along hedgehog for younger children for £3.50 and a range of small stick-puppets for £4.75 each.

DENISE ELPHICK

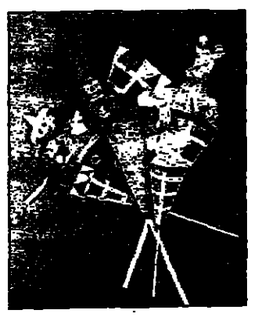
● **Correction:** the telephone number for The National Autistic Society listed on last week's *shopping page should have been* 081-451 1114.



Colourful papier-mâché tree decorations, £3.25 each from Habitat. Far left: a beautifully constructed wooden doll's pram, £69.50 from The Hill Toy Company



Above: traditional wooden railway set, which has colourfully painted buildings, trees, an engine and carriages, £19.99 from the Early Learning Centre. Right: people skittles, £13 from Habitat



Above: a range of small stick puppets, £4.75 from Habitat. Above right: a range of giant animal-head masks, including a lion, giraffe and crocodile, £6.95 each from The Hill Toy Company.

This multi-coloured rocking horse, made in Sri Lanka, is big enough to cater for a wide age range, £55 from Habitat

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- *The Hill Toy Company, PO Box 2963, London W11 2WQ (071-229 0222).*
- *The Early Learning Centre. Call 0793 531300 for your nearest branch.*
- *Min and Dell, 16 The Pines, Broad Street, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3BH (0483 453151).*
- *Habitat. Call 071-255 2545 for your nearest branch.*
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■ GOLDEN BOY
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THE quiet humour and precise observation which distinguished Carol Lake's first collection of short stories, *Rosehill*, winner of the 1989 *Guardian* Fiction Prize, is also displayed in her second collection, likewise set in the Midlands during the 1960s. Each of the book's ten stories is linked to the next and concerns the same characters.

The narrator, Sylvie Sands, is 16 and works as a switchboard operator at the telephone exchange in Derby, where her mother, Joy, also worked as a young woman. It emerges that Joy, who was very young (and unmarried) when Sylvie was born, has been more like a sister to her, relinquishing the maternal role to her own mother.

When relations break down with the elderly couple she has been brought up to think of as her parents, Sylvie finds consolation in her job and in the gossipy, feminine company of her colleagues. For her, these women with their "lipsticked smiles" and "wonderful voices" are more like her family than her real family. It is their stories that interest her and which she relates.

The events described in these stories are the daily routines of work and domestic life, and yet they are made to seem fascinating. Lake's ear for dialogue is acute, and she is also an attentive social historian. Joy, with her circular skirts and "high-heeled shoes with little butterfly bows on them" epitomises the glamour of the 1950s, just as Sylvie and her friends, with their back-combed hair and idealistic political opinions, are very much of the 1960s.

Rosemary Friedman's *Golden Boy* is also a story of its time. Freddie Lomax is 40: handsome, rich and successful. Of course he is destined to come unstuck. In the space of a few chapters, he loses his job, his money and his wife: even his lover dies of an Aids-related illness.

Friedman's contemporary morality tale is breezily told, with some amusing episodes, including the ghastly fortieth birthday party, at which Freddie announces the news that he has been made redundant. But these occasional felicities are not enough to sustain the reader's interest in a central character so lacking in self-awareness or charm.

CHRISTINA KONING

Sons and sins of the fathers

The Sunday Times recently drew attention to the appearance of reviews by four relatives of Auberon Waugh in a single issue of the *Literary Review*, which he edits. Since the *Literary Review* pays its reviewers at most a tenth as much as *The Sunday Times*, the only surprise is that Waugh is not entirely dependent on his family. That his cast list is nevertheless so impressive ought to give his accusers pause: a nepotist, certainly, but an enlightened one.

It would take far too much space here to list all the family links between editors, reviewers and columnists in London. My own father, Paul Johnson, has never written for *The Times* books pages, but my father-in-law, J.W.M. Thompson, and my wife, Sarah Johnson, do so occasionally. Both are professional journalists and well qualified to review books.

That sort of connection does not, I think, make literary journalists a mafia, though it suits some writers to pretend that such a thing exists; but it does mean that when a familiar surname crops up — a Gross, a Coren, a Lawson, a Pryce-Jones — then the chances are that this is indeed so-and-so's relative by marriage or descent.

And does such a discovery not bring with it an involuntary pleasure? When a young unknown proves worthy of a great ancestor, one's instinct is to echo Edmund Burke, who remarked on hearing Pitt the Younger's maiden speech: "Not merely a chip of [sic] the old 'block', but the old block itself."

The hereditary principle plays a more modest part in literary life than in many other fields; there are few great dynasties of writers comparable to the Cecils, Chamberlains and Churchills in politics or the Huxleys, Darwins and Chadwicks in science — the Tolstoys and the Pasternaks, though numerous, have each produced only one major writer. The Pakenhams and Waughs have indeed spread their literary talent over three generations, outdoing the Manns (Thomas, Heinrich, Klaus, Erika and Golo), the Amises (Kingsley and Martin) and the Fullers (Roy and John), who have so far only managed two. The Russells (Lord John, Bertrand, Conrad), the Reads (Herbert, Piers Paul and now Albert) and the Freuds (Sigmund, Anna, Lucian, Clement, Esther and Emma) are also noteworthy examples of hereditary talent.



DANIEL JOHNSON

What happens when an outstanding practical gift is transformed into a literary one in the next generation? By far the most prominent recent case has been the Mosleys. Nicholas Mosley has documented his relationship with his father, Sir Oswald Mosley, in two volumes of memoirs, *Rules of the Game* and *Beyond the Pale* (reissued together in paperback by Secker at £18.99). Now he has written an autobiography, *Efforts at Truth* (Secker, £20), in which he reflects on the ways in which his novels have been responses to life's exigencies.

Oswald and Nicholas were as different in temperament, in opinions, in tastes as it is possible for father and son to be. Yet they had one thing in common: both were born insiders, but became outsiders. Perhaps Nick Mosley never squandered an opportunity comparable to the high, even highest, office which Oswald might in due course have attained, had he not lost patience with the Labour government to which he belonged and formed the New Party, and later the British Union of Fascists. But Nicholas might well have become a household name, like his contemporaries Anthony Burgess, Kingsley Amis, Iris Murdoch or V.S. Naipaul.

Yet he is still little known, despite the fact that *Accident* was made into a memorable film by Harold Pinter and Joseph Losey and that *Hopeful Monsters* won the Whitbread four years ago. This has nothing to do with lack of talent. It is, rather, that he has spent his whole life searching for its meaning: a meaning which, he thought, had eluded his father, whose grandiose visions (the last of which was European federalism) Nicholas had always rejected.

The letters from the various women whom he has loved contain perhaps the most touching passages in the book. Their testimonies show how hard he has striven to be true to his experience and his quest for a deeper meaning than the despair or cynicism he saw about him, so fashionable since 1945.

Heredity is a curse as well as a blessing: not only these three books, but also a bad stammer and years spent in psychoanalysis testify to the fact that Nick Mosley inherited more than the private income his mother left him. But his conclusion is very striking: what matters, he says, is neither life nor death, but what is passed on to the children. Even an Oswald Mosley can be redeemed by his descendants.

The evil that men do lives after them — but so, *pace* Mark Antony, does the good, and for infinitely longer, through their children.

P. J. O'Rourke's world view is too simplistic, says **John Diamond**

A Right charlie



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The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse: nice chaps, really

■ ALL THE TROUBLE IN THE WORLD
By P. J. O'Rourke
Picador, £14.99

P. J. O'ROURKE has personally counted the horsemen of the Apocalypse and discovered that, notwithstanding the more alarmist chapters of Revelations, there are actually some dozen of them in the posse. The way O'Rourke tells it, though, the horsemen have had a bad press: they have been misquoted, misunderstood. In short, it is not their fault. For according to O'Rourke, once you have shared a foxhole or a landfill with Famine or Pestilence, he turns out to be not such a bad guy after all.

O'Rourke is one of the new breed of right-wing American libertarians, that tendency whose lineage evolved from a souring of the 1960s laid-back, if-it-feels-good-do-itism rather than the pioneering get-offa-my-land frontierism that has for so long informed institutionalised selfishness in America. Indeed, O'Rourke has come so far from his days as a hippy Maoist that he is able to operate on the simple, not to say simplistic, principle that if the *New York Times*, Al Gore or anyone under the age of 21 supports it, then he is against it, and never mind that in order to prove his rivals wrong he has to be inanely picky with his statistics and occasionally needs to rip facts from their true context by the bleeding root.

In strict chapter order, O'Rourke is against the proposition that the Third World is overpopulated (conclusive proof: the population density of Dhaka in Bangladesh is the same as that of a particular Californian suburb); that hunger is never the result of anything but government interference (conclusive proof: no country with a free press has ever had a famine); that the environmentalists are making a fuss about nothing (conclusive proof: Greenpeaceniks do not stick to the dictionary definition of the word "wilderness"). Using the same set of intellectual flash cards, O'Rourke trashes political correctness, Aids research and even the most primitive of public-welfare systems. And there is no problem which this master of the simplistic leap of judgment cannot solve by whipping the tattered rug of government interference from under it.

It is easy to work out what O'Rourke is against: it is harder to see what he is for. He has a terminal case of the plague-on-all-your-houses — although he is gracious enough to include his own house in the plague zone most of the time. Or not so much a house as a caravan, for, to give the man his due, he really has been out there and seen it all, which in a country where only 11 per cent of the population have a valid passport shows a certain unwonted broadness of mind. O'Rourke goes to Bangladesh to find out how Malthus got it wrong, to the Amazon to put the lie to all that green whingeing, to the collapsing Baltic states to show how misguided any sort of collectivism has to be. O'Rourke gets shot at, goes hungry, risks all at a Czechoslovakian landfill site.

His gruff utopianism aside, O'Rourke never really notices that he suffers from the same excesses as those he rails against. The whale savers and tree huggers he meets see every missing species of owl and every felled tree as evidence of environmental rape; the PC-ers treat every locker-room pin-up as proof of gender imperialism. But intellectually slack as those leaps are, they are no less reasonable than the O'Rourke leap which sees the soft and sloppy vacillations of Carter and Clinton as the thin end of the short wedge which has Stalin and Hitler at its thick end.

Then again, as I read his book, I could never quite rid myself of the suspicion that, if I lived in America, I might be a surly libertarian too, for the one thing that O'Rourke makes plain is that America does not have politics like the rest of the world has politics. There is no way that Clinton's lumberings in Haiti or Bush's tax-break policies or Ross Perot's policies on whatever it is that Perot had policies on can be said to be based on a political creed, let alone a political principle. Americans have swapped cogent political systems for a series of arbitrary political poses, with no connection ever made between any cause and its resultant effect other than the way it will look on *Good Morning America*.

None of which is to say the book is not worth reading. O'Rourke can write more compellingly than almost any of those he writes about and he is funnier than almost anyone writing in America today, politically orientated or otherwise — as befits a man whose journalistic career started on the *National Lampoon*, the American cross between *Private Eye*, *Punch* and *Viz*.

It is his status as political gagmeister that is his real problem: he cannot see a gag slouch past without making a grab for its neck. And while it is his Clinton-equals-Stalin logic that is O'Rourke's intellectual failing, it is the logic which says that if you can crack a gag about something, then it can *only* be laughable, which will forever make sure that he never fights in the political ring at anything other than bantam weight.



Marilyn Monroe in a 1950 glamour shot: in his book, *Young Marilyn* (Smith Gryphon, £19.99), James Haspiel, the world's leading *Monroe* archivist, presents 150 rare photographs from Monroe's early modelling and starlet career in Hollywood.

When little pieces of yourself fall away

■ IN MY OWN TIME: Almost an autobiography
By Nina Bawden
Virago, £15.99



Nina Bawden, who is somehow more at home with fate

IT IS the subtitle of Nina Bawden's book that intrigues me. Here the word "almost" encompasses not only the recognition that any view of a life — particularly one's own — is subject to limitations, but that all biography is prone to the telescopic rather than kaleidoscopic view.

In Bawden's case, this is true, for *In My Own Time* is a selective piece of writing. It would be an exaggeration to say that it is what the author has chosen to leave out that tells us most about her; but it is true that what Bawden does not tell us suggests a reluctance to examine the darker emotional and psychological undercurrents of her life.

Bawden writes clearly and colourfully, and her prose is a joy to read. The overall effect is palatable but occasionally frustrating. Her tone is often brittle and discriminative, as if she is afraid that she might not stand up to the kind of scrutiny that she evinces so well in her fiction.

There is little mention of Bawden's intimate life. After six years of marriage, she left her first husband, Harry, for another man. "I met Austen on a bus: he was married with two daughters, an ex-naval officer who was now a journalist. Our divorces went through expeditiously with the usual wailing and complaint and self-justification for bad behaviour on our part." And that's that. No mention of any effect, upon her, him, the children, her new husband. Perhaps there is nothing more to say, but if so, what exactly does it say about Bawden?

As regards her peculiar reticence, there are important exceptions, as in her moving and unsentimental account of the life and death of her schizophrenic son, Niki. Here there is no holding back.

"Niki could always make a good first impression," writes Bawden, "but he couldn't keep it up, hold himself together. It was as if he was splintered inside, like a parcel of broken glass." Finally, the parcel falls apart, and Niki commits suicide. One gets the feeling that Bawden, too, has splintered inside as a result. Later, when she describes her mother's death, she intimates as much: "I thought — well, this is what it is like. Pieces of yourself fall away." It is here, describing the sorts of loss over which she has no control that Bawden is at her best. She seems somehow more at home with fate, uneasy with the control she has exerted over her own destiny, and what that might, or might not, say about her.

MARY LOUDON

Drawing rations

■ THE LONDON SKETCH CLUB
By David Cuppleditch
Alan Sutton, £9.99

THE Langham Sketching Club offered its members only bread and cheese with beer; so in 1898 a breakaway group of hearty eaters formed the London Sketch Club.

Members met weekly to sketch for two hours, followed by a hot, square meal and entertainment.

The new club flourished. The art was serious, nothing else was. A tradition grew of smokers, practical jokes, larks and an Annual Ball. After several changes of address, the club settled in Dilke St, Chelsea, where it still is. Troublesome conversational topics such as politics are still banned; so are women, alas, from one of the very few men's clubs worth invading.

The club made no differentiation between fine artists, graphic artists, cartoonists and illustrators. David Cuppleditch's account, largely a series of potted biographies, brings back to the light the names of many artists whose work is intricately enmeshed in the century's history and everyone's consciousness. We are reminded of Alfred Leete's famous recruiting poster of Kitchener's pointing finger. Heath Robinson's "Submarinelin" attacks a harmless lady in a rowing boat, and John Hassall's jolly fisherman assures us "Skegness is so bracing!" — among memory-stirring dozens.

MARY SULLIVAN

The Times/Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	CLOUGH: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY **Brian Clough** *(Partridge Press)*	£16.99	0	1
2	DIANA: HER NEW LIFE **Andrew Morton** *(Michael O'Mara)*	£14.99	0	1
3	THE PRINCE OF WALES: AN INTIMATE PORTRAIT **Jonathan Dimbleby** *(Little Brown)*	£20	1	2
4	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	3	6
5	CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF HOPE **Pope John Paul II** *(Cape)*	£9.99	2	4
6	INTERESTING TIMES **Terry Pratchett** *(Gollancz)*	£14.99	4	3
7	MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY **Ian Botham** *(Collins Willow)*	£15.99	6	10
8	ORIGINAL SIN **P. D. James** *(Faber)*	£14.99	5	5
9	AGE OF EXTREMES: THE SHORT 20TH CENTURY 1914-91 **E. J. Hobsbawm** *(Michael Joseph)*	£20	10	2
10	THE GHOSTS OF SLEATH **James Herbert** *(HarperCollins)*	£14.99	0	1

PAPERBACK

1	MEN AT ARMS **Terry Pratchett** *(Corgi)*	£4.99	1	2
2	BRAVO TWO ZERO **Andy McNab** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	2	11
3	MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW **Peter Høeg** *(Flamingo)*	£5.99	3	5
4	100 RECIPES IN NO TIME AT ALL **Anneka Rice** *(BBC)*	£4.99	4	6
5	NIGHTMARES & DREAMSCAPES **Stephen King** *(NEL)*	£5.99	8	5
6	TERRIBLE TWOS **Sarah Kennedy** *(BBC)*	£4.99	0	1
7	CALVIN & HOBBES: HOMICIDAL JUNGLE CAT **Bill Watterson** *(Warner)*	£7.99	7	5
8	COMPLICITY **Iain Banks** *(Abacus)*	£6.99	5	11
9	PADDY CLARKE HA HA HA **Roddy Doyle** *(Mandarin)*	£5.99	10	25
10	FIRES OF HEAVEN: BOOK FIVE: WHEEL OF TIME **Robert Jordan** *(Orbit)*	£5.99	6	3
11	JEDI ACADEMY SERIES VOL 3: CHAMPIONS OF THE FORCE **Kevin J. Anderson** *(Bantam)*	£4.49	9	2
12	THE ROBBER BRIDE **Margaret Atwood** *(Virgo)*	£5.99	12	4
13	HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU **Jimmy Mulville and others** *(BBC)*	£6.99	0	1
14	MRS DE WINTER **Susan Hill** *(Mandarin)*	£5.99	14	5
15	LIFE AND HOW TO SURVIVE IT **Robin Skynner & John Cleese** *(Mandarin)*	£5.99	11	5
16	BIRDSONG **Sebastian Faulks** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	15	20
17	DEPENDENCE DAY **Robert Newman** *(Century)*	£8.99	0	2
18	GOLDEN STRAW **Catherine Cookson** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	17	6
19	DELIA SMITH'S CHRISTMAS **Delia Smith** *(BBC)*	£8.99	18	3
20	CONFUSION **Elizabeth Jane Howard** *(Pan Macmillan)*	£5.99	0	1

Any book from this list can be ordered from
Dillons Direct Tel: 0345 125 704 (local rate) The Bookstore To Your Door

Lines of interest

■ LINES ON THE UNDERGROUND — AN ANTHOLOGY FOR LONDON TRAVELLERS
Compiled by Dorothy Meade and Tatiana Wolff
(Cassell £7.99)

"DESPITE the grumbles, the bad press about delays, power cuts, ageing rolling stock . . . the magic of the underground refuses to go away," the compilers of this anthology claim in their introduction. Well, up to a point. Magic seems an elusive quality to travellers stuck for hours in tunnels or trying vainly to prise chewing gum off their coats.

But as long as you are sitting cosily at home, this book is fun. Dorothy Meade and Tatiana Wolff have spent 50 years digging up literary, historical, factual, and even musical quotations to flesh out the grid of London's Tube system. The chapters are arranged alphabetically by Tube line. But within each chapter, the quotations are laid out in order of the stations of the line.

A short experiment on the District line convinced me that the book works best in an armchair. Many of the quotations are frustratingly short, leaving me with long intervals gazing at the unlovely gasworks and graffiti between East Ham and Aldgate East.

The quotations come from varied sources. Obvious London writers such as Charles Dickens feature heavily, as do John Betjeman, James Boswell and Samuel Pepys. Snippets of information from *The London Encyclopaedia* are useful for bridging suburban gaps where few writers have set foot (Roding Valley, Snaresbrook, and East Finchley, which "once consisted mainly of the notorious Finchley Common . . . and a haunt of highwaymen until its enclosure in 1816"). Surprisingly dull quotations reward travellers at Old Street and Moorgate, both ancient and well-recorded parts of the city.

But Meade and Wolff dig up some gems, such as this instruction from *De Profundis*, organ of the air-raid shelterers at Swiss Cottage station, September 1940: "Vibration due to heavy gunfire or other causes will be felt much less if you do not lie with your head against the wall".

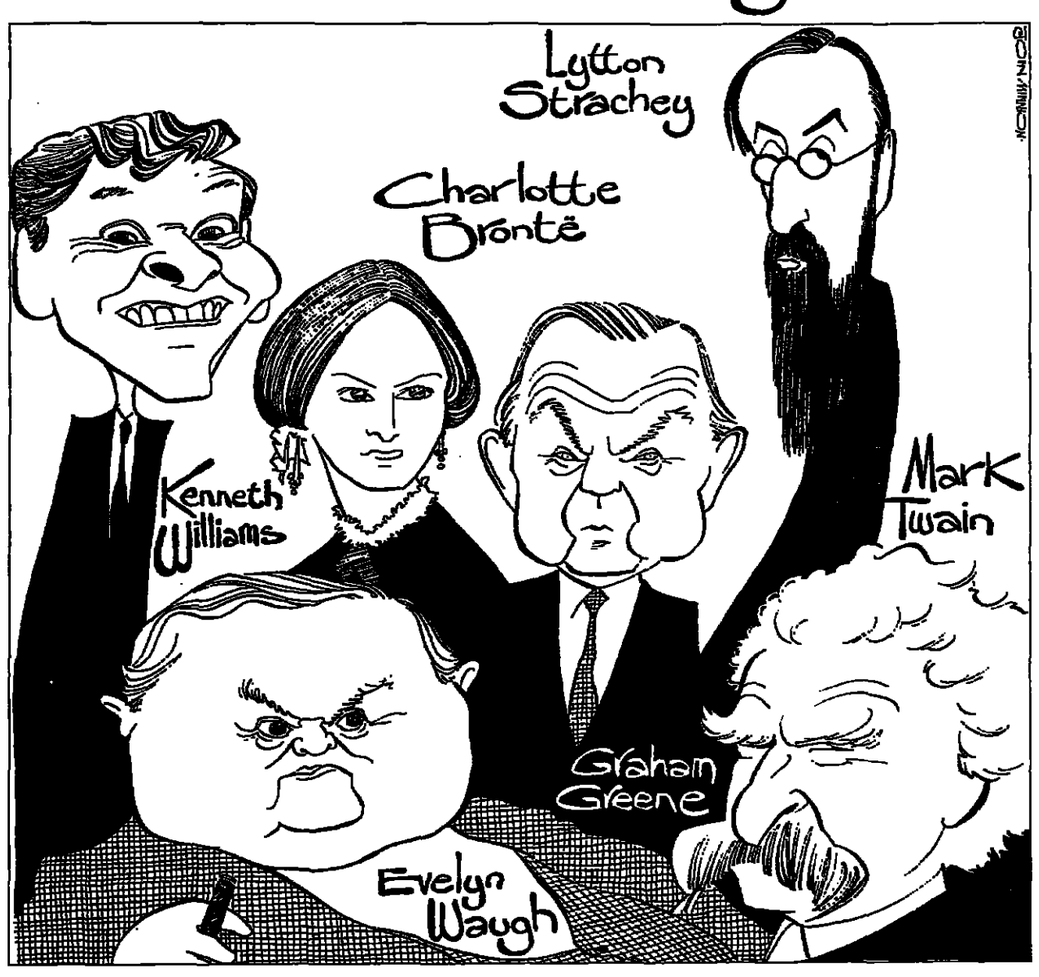
SARA MCCONNELL

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History, novels, food, crime and biographies. . . **Giles Coren** asks writers and critics to name their favourite books of the past year

The best reading of 1994





BARRY TOOK

Broadcaster

■ *Dave Barry is Not Making This Up* by Dave Barry (Crown Publishing, $20). "I am a huge fan of this *Miami Herald* columnist. He is very, very funny on all sorts of mundane subjects."

■ *The Kenneth Williams Letters* (HarperCollins, £18). "Much more entertaining and revealing than the diaries. This is the vulgar, extrovert side of him, and there is even a bit of the scholar."

LORD JENKINS

Chancellor, Oxford University

■ *Curzon* by David Gilmour (John Murray, £25). "A straight political biography of a Viceroy and Foreign Secretary whose strengths and weaknesses were both great and unusually equal."

■ *Evelyn Waugh: A Biography* by Selina Hastings (Sinclair Stevenson, £20). "This book shows that in literary biography an unploughed field is not necessary for a fine new crop. Her great feat is to balance the facts of Waugh's life and the fiction in his highly autobiographical novels, which often flow together like a canal shadowing a river."

■ *Mandarin* by Nicholas Henderson (Weidenfeld, £20). "Not exactly autobiography but diplomatic memoirs, it is written with insight, style and irreverence which make the result is funny as it is informative."

MATTHEW EVANS

Chairman, Faber & Faber

■ *Pulp Fiction* by Quentin Tarantino (Faber, £7.99). "It is a brilliant film, and in the script you can see language coming back into the movies."

■ *Aristocrats* by Stella Tillyard (Chatto, £20). "It's about four aristocratic sisters in the 18th century, and is one of the best bits of social history I have read in years."

BERYL BAINBRIDGE

Author

■ *Sex in Georgian England* by A. D. Harvey (Duckworth, £20). "This scholarly work deals with the sexual attitudes of the 18th century and contains some splendidly pornographic engravings."

■ *Major Major* by Terry Major-Ball (Duckworth, £12.95). "No Prime Minister has ever been better served than in this innocent and affectionate memoir. It deserves to become a classic."



Beryl Bainbridge

PETER STOTHARD

Editor, *The Times*

■ *Birds in Literature* by Leonard Lutwack (Florida University Press, £26.95). "Perfect for a bird-loving bibliophile and book-loving bird watcher. If you need a present for someone who, like me, is both, order early and be grateful to the University of Florida."

■ *Modern Philosophy* by Roger Scruton (Sinclair-Stevenson, £25). "Scruton is the most controversial writer launched by *The Times* in recent years. This book, by contrast, is as calm as it is complete. If I had had it when I was studying philosophy, I would know a lot more than I do now."

■ *East, West* by Salman Rushdie (Jonathan Cape, £9.99). "I am mildly claustrophobic and there is a pleasurable sense of something bursting out of confinement in this book. It comes out of Rushdie's predicament without being self-conscious, and the book is in the most beautiful English you could hope for."

MARK BARTY-KING

Managing director, Bantam

■ *The Macmillan Anthology of English Prose* edited by Edward Leeson (£9.99). "It has the virtue of knowing where to stop, leaving younger writers to prove themselves for a future edition. A satisfying reminder of our dazzling literary heritage from the 16th century onwards."

■ *The Celestine Prophecy* by James Redfield (Bantam, £7.99). "The nine insights that make up the philosophical backbone of this book may provide the key to people's inner condition at the end of the millennium. Not a book for politicians or scientists."

KEN FOLLETT

Author

■ *The Language Instinct* by Stephen Pinker (Alan Lane, £20). "A fascinating book about words, full of nuggets that you want to read out to other people."

■ *Disclosure* by Michael Crichton (Arrow, £5.99). "A small masterpiece of suspense writing."

J. G. BALLARD

Author

■ *The Life of Graham Greene, Vol II* by Norman Sherry (Cape, £20). "Greene is one of the most mysterious British writers of the century, and so his life attracts all sorts of conspiracy theorists. This is a cool assessment — as close as we will ever get to the man."

■ *An Intimate History of Humanity* by Theodore Zeldin (Sinclair-Stevenson, £20). "A vivid and encyclopaedic look at everyday life and all the little things we take for granted — a brilliant piece of work."

■ *Paris After the Liberation* by Anthony Beevor & Artemis Cooper (Hamish Hamilton, £20). "A perceptive portrait of Paris in its postwar heyday."

CHRISTOPHER SINCLAIR-STEVENSON

Publisher, Sinclair-Stevenson

■ *Evelyn Waugh — A Biography* by Selina Hastings (Sinclair-Stevenson, £20). "A witty biography which presents Waugh as a monster, but an understandable monster."

■ *Writing Home* by Alan Bennett (Faber, £17.50). "The most enjoyable book I've read in recent months."

■ *Original Sin* by P. D. James (Faber, £14.99). "Brilliant, and more than a detective story. The fact that it is full of publishers being murdered gives it extra spice."

WILLIAM BOYD

Author

■ *Evelyn Waugh — A Biography* by Selina Hastings (Sinclair-Stevenson, £20). "Superb. I read it in two days flat. She is brilliantly astute in the way she brings the minor characters to life."

■ *History: the Home Movie* by Craig Raine (Penguin, £9.99). "A long poem that is built like a novel but made of such rich poetry that you can read it three or four times."

RACHEL CUSK

Author and critic

■ *The Dark Stuff* by Nick Kent (Penguin, £9.99). "A collection of essays on rock wrecks, their nasty deeds, and the disgraceful state they come to in the end."

■ *What Henry James Knew* by Cynthia Ozick (Vintage, £5.99). "A retrial of 20th-century fiction which acknowledges James as the inventor of the modern novel, and overhauls all the eminent characters, looking at how their positions change with time."

■ *The Lost Heart of Asia* by Colin Thubron (Heinemann, £16.99). "Very impressive. Thubron's aristocratic oddball humour makes him the quintessential travel writer."

ANTONIA FRASER

Author

■ *Aristocrats* by Stella Tillyard (Chatto, £20). "I love history books, and this one is compulsively readable. I was very sad when I finished it."

■ *The First World War* by Martin Gilbert (Weidenfeld, £20). "Long, like the trenches, but fascinating and lucid."

ROBERT CARRIER

Food writer

■ *Wild Food from Land and Sea* by Marco-Pierre White (Ebury, £19.99). "I'd like to cook everything in it, which is rare for me. His book is as brilliant as his cooking."

■ *Lytton Strachey: The New Biography* by Michael Holroyd (Chatto, £25). "This presents a fresh picture of the social and sexual goings-on in Bloomsbury — backed up with lots of new and scandalous information."

■ *A Son of the Circus* by John Irving (Bloomsbury, £15.99). "A romantic survey of India seen through the eyes of circus dwarfs and an Indian doctor. I couldn't put it down."

TERRY MAJOR-BALL

Brother of the Prime Minister

■ *Pitiless Pursuit* by Brian Sedgemore (Duckworth, £14.99). "A book about a television company bidding for a franchise. I enjoyed it very much, despite its being full of sex and swearing. I had no idea television people used such strong language."

■ *Golden Memories* by Thomas Miller (Darron E. Childs, £14.99). "A nice little book produced by a group of local historians in Gainsborough, where my mother was born. A fascinating read for anyone interested in old towns, and particularly in Gainsborough."

DAVID HARE

Playwright

■ *Silent Woman: Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes* by Janet Malcolm (Picador, £14.99). "Disregard all reviews of this book. It is the best-written and most stirring polemic of the year. Completely brilliant."

■ *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* by John Berendt (Chatto, £10.99). "A wonderful, realistic thriller about Savannah."

■ *How We Die* by Sherwin B. Nuland (Chatto, £8.99). "Something extraordinary: a doctor as literate as Chekhov tells you, disease by disease, what it's going to be like to die. It is an attack on the idea that we all go peacefully."

D. M. THOMAS

Author

■ *The Fatal Bodice* by Alison Reyes (Minerva, £4.99). "Supercharged eroticism which is neither twee nor too brutal, but delicate and mesmeric."

■ *The Orion Mystery* by Robert Bauval and Adrian Gilbert (Heinemann, £16.99). "Best described as 'speculative science', this real-life thriller looks at the formation of the pyramids and offers new explanations of their mysteries."

■ *Anna Akhmatova: Poet and Prophet* by Roberta Reeder (St Martin's Press, $35). "Reeder spent five years in Russia investigating the life of this great Russian writer, and sheds new light on her life and poetry."

AL ALVAREZ

Author and critic

■ *The Electronic Elephant* by Dan Jacobson (Hamish Hamilton, £17.99). "A subtle, immaculately written and profoundly pessimistic record of a journey through southern Africa."



Al Alvarez

■ *Culture of Complaint* by Robert Hughes (OUP, £12.99). "A witty demolition of American PC — on the Left, on the Right, in colleges, politics and the art world."

■ *The Husbands* by Christopher Logue (Faber, £6.99). "The third instalment of Christopher Logue's movie-script version of *The Iliad*, it is pared down, lucid and resolutely contemporary."

MALCOLM BRADBURY

Literary critic

■ *What A Carve Up!* by Jonathan Coe (Viking, £10.99). "Missed out on the prizes, but a wonderfully clever book in its structure and experimentation, and sharp commentary on British culture."

■ *A Void* by Georges Perec (Harvill, £7.99). "This is a brilliant translation of a French novel in which the letter "e" is never used. It was the performance value that made me like it so much."

■ *A Frolic of His Own* by William Gaddis (Viking, £16). "Gaddis publishes only rarely, but to my mind he is one of the most important American writers, using fiction to criticise American culture and its corruption."

MELVYN BRAGG

Broadcaster

■ *Even Odder Perceptions* by Richard Gregory (Routledge, £20). "A wonderfully brilliant and quirky mind."

■ *The Chosen Primate* by Adam Kuper (Harvard University Press, £22.25). "A decisive, amusing book on biology and culture."

■ *The Language Instinct* by Stephen Pinker (Allen Lane, £20). "Discusses, among much else, whether we are born with a language gene."

NIGELLA LAWSON

Journalist

■ *War of the Words* edited by Sarah Dunant (Virago, £7.99). "A book of essays on political correctness sounds a bit dull, but this is an astonishingly lively book. I was glad to see the debate taken out of the hysterical 'Why can't we say bald or fat?' arena and read about the serious issues behind the columnists' ranting."

■ *Super Hints for Cooks* compiled by Lady Wardington (Michael Joseph, £9.99). "A book about food that offers an enlightening literary point of view. We learn, for example, that Iris Murdoch enlivens shop-bought Brussels paté with damson jam."

JOAN SMITH

Author and critic

■ *Charlotte Brontë — A Passionate Life* by Lyndall Gordon (Chatto, £17.99). "This book concentrates on Brontë's inner life, unlike most biographies, rather than repeating the hackneyed gothic life story."

■ *The Paper Wife* by Lynda Spalding (Bloomsbury, £15.99). "A thriller set in Central America which uses the genre to create a fine and very troubling novel."

■ *Simisola* by Ruth Rendell (Hutchinson, £14.99). "A Wexford novel — the best she has written in years."

TERRY WAITE

Former hostage

■ *Cambridge Minds* edited by Richard Mason (Cambridge University Press, £9.99). "This collection of essays covers the major achievements of individuals and departments at Cambridge University over the past 150 years. There is Bertrand Russell and Wittgenstein, the criticism of Richards and Leavis, as well as the scientific triumphs. A stimulating read that introduces us to subjects which may be outside our field of experience."

■ *A World Elsewhere* by Bernard Levin (Jonathan Cape, £16.99). "An examination of Utopian philosophies which whizzes through the different theories in a way that is not entirely optimistic, but is enjoyably written."

■ *Captain James Cook* by Richard Hough (Curtis/Hodder, £20). "A biography for the general reader. In an age when history is not being taught strongly enough, not enough is known about the great national figures. This book should be in every school library."

RICHARD MORRISON

Arts editor, *The Times*

■ *A Bitter Truth* by Richard Cork (Yale, £45). "A much needed survey of First World War art."

■ *Damn You, England!* by John Osborne (Faber, £14.99). "A brilliant, acerbic view of postwar British theatre."

■ *The Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Musical Theatre* by Kurt Ganzl (£150). "A magnificent and comprehensive chronicle of an entire art form."

PADDY ASHDOWN

Leader, Liberal Democrats

■ *The Empty Raincoat* by Charles Handy (Hutchinson, £12.99). "One of the genuinely fresh thinkers on the changing patterns of work and society in a global economic market. A must for new thinkers."

CHRISTOPHER RICKS

Literary critic

■ *New and Collected Poems, 1952-1992* by Geoffrey Hill (Houghton-Mifflin, $17.95). "True poems, some new poems."

■ *Mark Twain: Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches, and Essays, 1852-1890*, and *1891-1910*. (Library of America, $35 each). "The great ringmaster of life's circus."

BRIAN MacARTHUR

Editor, Weekend books, *The Times*

■ *A Change of Climate* by Hilary Mantel (Viking, £15). "The sustained power of Mantel's writing at the moment when the central trauma of the protagonists unfolds remains in the memory months later."

■ *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* by Louis de Bernières (Secker, £15.99). "Set on an occupied Greek island during the Second World War. An uplifting and often comic story shot through with joy and tragedy showing how the common humanity of men and women can conquer the most savage barbarity."

■ *A Short Walk From Harrods* by Dirk Bogarde (Viking, £15.99). "A haunting love story that will bewitch anybody who adores France and the French."

DANIEL JOHNSON

Literary editor, *The Times*

■ *Mazzini* by Denis Mack Smith (Yale, £19.95). "Definitive, highly readable biography of a revolutionary thinker far more relevant to our time than Marx, Lenin or Mao."

■ *Bosnia: A Short History* by Noel Malcolm (Macmillan, £17.50/£9.99 pbk). "Worthy of the Wolfson Prize for history, this is the essential background to Europe's greatest human disaster since 1939."

■ *Marsigli's Europe, 1680-1730: The Life and Times of Luigi Ferdinando Marsigli, Soldier and Virtuoso* by John Stoye (Yale, £29.95). "The *magnum opus* of a fine scholar evokes a true European, magnificently baroque in his Faustian thirst for knowledge."

KATHY LETTE

Author

■ *Affliction* by Fay Weldon (HarperCollins, £12.99). "This woman has a sense of humour drier than an AA clinic. The book deals with a relationship which has a touch of the *Titanic* . . . and a woman who thinks it's every man for herself. A cautionary tale — dark and hilarious."

■ *The Queen and I* by Sue Townsend (Mandarin, £4.99). "If there were an Olympic Games category for social satire, Townsend would be a gold-medal champion. Inventive and searingly honest, this is a satirist who goes straight for the jocular vein."



Kathy Lette

DERWENT MAY

Literary critic

■ *The Correspondence of William James, Vols I & II* edited by Ignas K. Skrupskelis & Elizabth M. Berkeley (University of Virginia Press, £39.95 each). "These are letters that Henry and William James wrote to each other, and to hear these cultured brothers hurling their cries of delight and witty groans across the Atlantic is a rare experience."

■ *The Oxford Book of the Supernatural*, edited by D. J. Enright (Oxford, £17.99). "Made me laugh and shiver."

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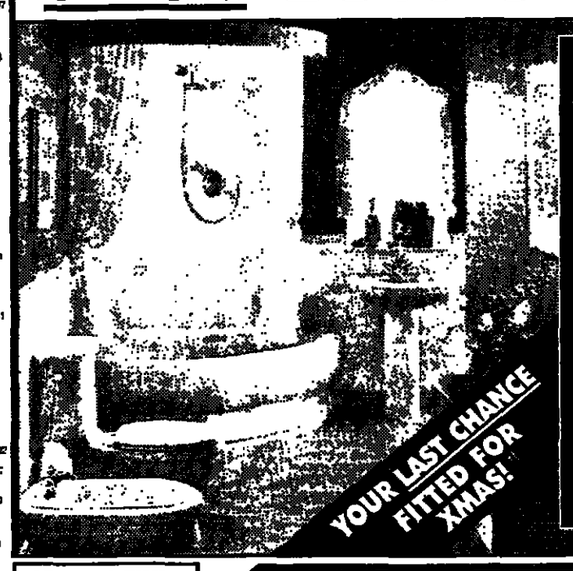
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COVENT GARDEN WC2. 4th flr 2 bed 2 bath flat mod p/b blk. Lft. £165,000. Barnard Marcus 071 636 2736

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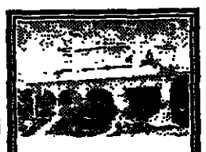
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هكذا من الاعلى

Look East for good tenants

The Japanese don't like the number 4; Americans want big fridges. Cheryl Taylor on letting to people from abroad

Most landlords and letting agents agree that the Japanese are best at looking after rented properties: they remove their shoes indoors, pay the rent on time, are quiet and, mostly, hand back the property in good condition.

Not every property will appeal to them, or to other overseas tenants, says John Birch, of the central London agents Birch & Co. Most Japanese want modern, two to three-bedroom flats in quality, purpose-built blocks, with porters and a garage. They also have special needs. The Japanese, sticklers for cleanliness, like to shower before they get into the bath, so require separate facilities, and insist on power showers, says Jacqueline Ironsides, who runs the central London agency Ironsides.

Some people from the Far East are very superstitious. According to research by the estate agents Savills, many oriental tenants will not rent a property with the number 4 in the address, because it is considered unlucky. Number 8 is lucky and may override other objections. They do not like the colour black (it represents death), and often require a property facing a certain direction.

Vicky Palau, of Savills's letting department, recalls a Japanese man who liked the high-rise block he saw in St John's Wood, north London, except that it faced south (this being unlucky for his mother-in-law). He was not amused at her remarking: "A good excuse not to invite her round." The Japanese do not like mother-in-law jokes.

One of the strangest requests that Mr Birch has dealt with was from a Japanese man looking for a family house in Wimbledon (the southern edge of London is sought after because of its golf courses). The man wanted to know whether the trees in the garden were both male and female because, if they were, this would give the "right feeling" to the place. "Unfortunately, our client was unable to supply the information," he says.

Traditionally, London's Japanese community worked in the City and lived in north London, particularly Hampstead and Highgate. The Japanese school, at one time in Regent's Park, has moved to west London, and so families are spreading to other areas.

Young Japanese businessmen aim to live in St John's Wood, but as they climb the corporate ladder they aspire to Mayfair, Knightsbridge and Chelsea. Rents, depending on the size of the flat, can be high. Japanese middle to top managers pay at least £450 a week for a two-bedroom flat in Hampstead; around £750 to £800 a week for a larger flat in Belgravia.

The various nationalities have different needs. Mrs Palau says that American families cannot cope with a small, below-the-worktop fridge with an icebox for a freezer, or a combined washing machine and drier. "Their delight at seeing an Armana fridge-freezer and separate washing machine and drier can often result in overlooking other inadequacies," she says.

Although there are more Europeans and other nationalities renting homes in London than ever before, Americans still represent the lion's share of the market, at around 65 per cent. They also have the biggest budgets. Most Savills tenants are Americans aged 30-39, working in the financial sector. They prefer two to three-bedroom properties and pay an average of £750 a week. Popular areas include Knightsbridge, Kensington, Chelsea, and St John's Wood.

Australians now spurn flats in the traditional Antipodean enclave of Earls Court for penthouse apartments in Kensington and Chelsea, Ms Ironsides says. "Like many people from hot countries, they do not like carpet in the bathrooms, and want lots of space, including a balcony or roof terrace with lots of light and a view."

Italians like ultra-modern apartments: fairly stark, with video entry phones and secure car parking.

Scandinavians are particularly keen on studio flats, stripped pine floors and anything made of wood.

The French are more traditional: they eat out more and are content with old-fashioned kitchens and bathrooms. Their budgets are generally lower. Families usually want to live near the Lycée in South Kensington.

Germans prefer unfurnished flats within walking distance of the office. They often have heavy furniture and need flats with large rooms to accommodate it.

Most tenants from the Middle East, particularly Arabs with large families, want to live in central London — in elaborate houses, with staff quarters, in Mayfair, the Edgware Road or Knightsbridge.

Whatever their nationality, most tenants want quality furnishings. A landlord whose attitude is "that's good enough for a tenant" is likely to get one who could not care less, Mrs Palau says. "Prepare the property to the standard you would expect and you will be rewarded with a grateful tenant who returns it in good condition."

The good news, Mrs Palau adds, is that most tenants pay their rent, look after the property and vacate on time (Statistics from Savills indicate that fewer than 1 per cent of tenants behave badly). Most do not smash furniture or leave the property dirty. If they do, the agent holds a deposit of six weeks' rent which should pay for the repairs and cleaning.

● *Birch & Co, 18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HB (071-437 5921). Ironsides, 34 Beauchamp Place, SW3 1NU (071-581 5877). Savills, 139 Sloane Street, SW1X 9AY (071-730 0822). Knight, Frank & Rutley, 8 Smith Street, SW3 4EE (071-824 8231).*



A family house — three bedrooms, two reception rooms, two bathrooms, shower room and a roof terrace — in Belgravia, for rent at £639 a week (Ironsides)



Second-floor, two bedroom flat near Kensington High Street. £375 a week (Knight, Frank & Rutley)

What you should know before letting your home

☐ **Who to let to?** Renting to a big company is a safer bet, because companies do not enjoy protection under the Housing Act 1988 and cannot become sitting tenants. They must be registered in Britain so, if necessary, you can serve a writ on them. The tenant should be a bona fide employee of the company and the company must pay the rent.

☐ **Ask for references.** These can be supplied by, for example, the tenant's bank, employer, solicitors or previous landlord.

☐ **Length of let.** There are different types of tenancy for varying periods. The new Assured Shorthold Tenancy enables landlords to let properties with the certainty of regaining possession at the end of the tenancy, and with greater scope for evicting a bad tenant. An agreement between both parties for a fixed period (a minimum of six months) gives both parties security and peace of mind.

☐ **Ask questions.** How does your letting agent expect to find you a tenant who respects your property and pays the rent on time? Members of the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA) must have a minimum of two years' expertise, provide separate accounts for clients' money, carry professional indemnity insurance and operate from business premises. The ARLA address is 18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1 (071-734 0655). Send an sae for a list of members and a booklet on letting.

☐ **Check what other landlords charge.** Are their properties in better or worse condition than yours? On average, letting agencies in central London ask about £200 a week for a small flat, with a minimum of £150 for a one-bedroom flat in Battersea, and more than £1,000 for a family house in Knightsbridge or Belgravia.

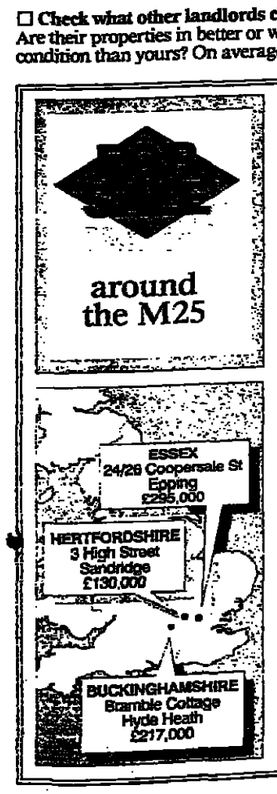
☐ **Garaging.** This is a big attraction in central London, as are built-in leisure facilities, such as pool, gym and Jaccuzi, and outside amenties, such as garden, terrace and balcony.

☐ **Letting agency fees.** Most charge about 10 per cent of the rental for the term of the tenancy. Some will collect the rent, charging a further 2½ per cent.

☐ **Management.** Many agents offer a management service, taking care of your home for another 5-7½ per cent on top of the letting fee. The agent will inspect the property two to four times a year and send you a written report on its condition.

☐ **Furnishing.** You will be expected to provide a home that is fully furnished and equipped down to teaspoons. Furnishings must fit the house: it's no use filling an expensive house with junk or putting antique furniture in a one-bedroom flat.

☐ **Insurance and mortgage.** Advise insurers (buildings and contents) in advance. If you do not, they may refuse to pay out should you need to make a claim. The same applies to a mortgage lender; it will be a condition of your mortgage that you get permission before letting. Remember, the taxman will want his share of any income from letting, but any expenses can be set against your income.



Hertfordshire: 3 High Street, Sandridge, near St Albans. Restored 17th century semi-detached cottage, five miles from the M25 (25 minutes by train, St Albans to King's Cross). Two bedrooms, lounge, dining room, kitchen. Barn with planning permission. £130,000 (GA Property Services, 0727 859131).





Essex: 24/26 Coopersale Street, Epping. Grade II listed 16th century farmhouse in half an acre, on the edge of Epping and the M25 (under an hour from Oxford Circus on Central Line). Five bedrooms, three reception rooms. About £295,000 (Savills, 0245 269311).

Buckinghamshire: Bramble Cottage, 7 The Green, Hyde Heath. Detached cottage in a third of an acre (40 minutes by Tube from Amersham to Baker Street; 7 miles from the M25). Two bedrooms, two reception rooms, study, kitchen. About £217,000 (Hamptons, 0494 725707).



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in association with Vauxhall Monterey

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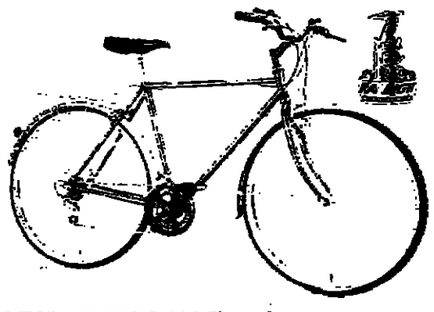


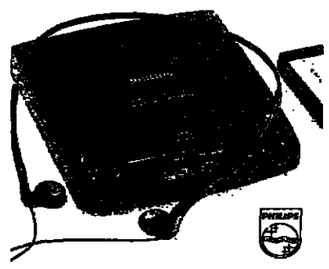
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The Weekly Game – the daily questions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays will give clues and will include a question on cycling. When you have answers for the three cycling questions phone the weekly prize line printed on Friday for a chance to win one of three Raleigh cycles a week.

The Accumulator Game – this is played by keeping a record of your answers to the daily questions and placing the first letter of the answer to each question in one of the 11 specified word spaces on the grid (see example below). Then by unscrambling the letters for each word at the end of our three week challenge you will be able to solve our 11 word accumulator question with the chance to win our star prize of a Vauxhall Monterey RS 3.2i V6. Runners-up prizes include one prize of £500 in cash to put towards your travel costs and three further prizes of £100 worth of Texaco's CleanSystem3 petrol.

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Day Six Questions

16. Near which European town was an over-ambitious military thrust attempted on September 17, 1944? *(Accumulator Clue: The first letter of this answer belongs to word 5)*

17. In which saga does a prosperous solicitor build a house called Robin Hill? *(Accumulator Clue: The first letter of this answer belongs to word 6)*

18. Who was shown a yellow card for a foul against Berthold in a 1990 semi-final, which would have prevented him from playing in the World Cup final? *(Accumulator Clue: The first letter of this answer belongs to word 7)*

Phone **0891 66 55 98** and leave your answers to the questions above, followed by your name, address and daytime phone number. Winners will be selected at random after the lines close at midnight tonight. Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times.

The answer to all questions in Commuter Challenge, can be found in the new updated edition of Bamber Gascoigne's Encyclopaedia of Britain (Macmillan, £29.95).

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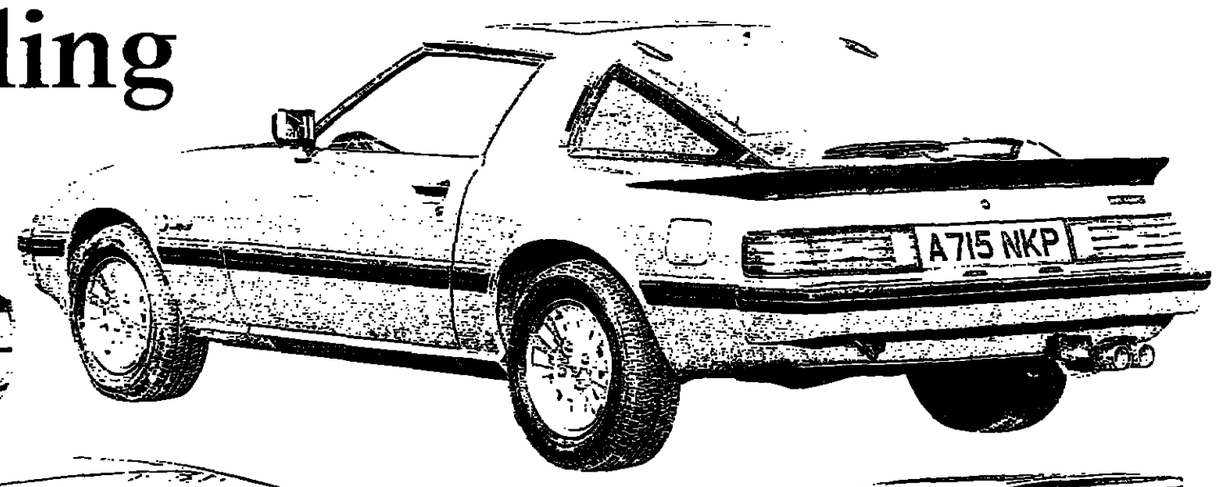
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91J 500SL Malachite, Brazil Lthr, R/Seat, A/C, M/Seat, ASR, 8H...30T £51,995
91H 500SL Signal Red, Cream Leather, R/Seat, A/C, M/Seat...32T £47,995
89G 300SL Nautic, Blue Leather, R/Seat, Alloys...39T £26,995
92K 230TE Auto Blue Black, Cream Cloth, Stereo...14T £24,995
94M E320C Blue Black, Cream Hide, EFS, A/C, 8H Alls, 5Spd...1T £44,995
94L E220C Blue Black, Grey Leather, 8 Hole Alloys, Stereo...10T £31,995
94L E220C Rosewood, Cream Leather, 8 Hole Alloys, Stereo...10T £29,995
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94L E220 Auto White, Black Cloth, Walnut, RHR...18T £24,995
94M C200 Elegance Auto Azurite, Grey Cloth, RHR, Stereo, 8H Alls...3T £25,495
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هكذا من الأعلى

While Escorts and Cavaliers regularly fill the top spots in the sales figures, **Kevin Eason** looks at who's propping up the latest list

The ten worst-selling cars in Britain



So you have decided to buy a brand new M-registered car, fresh out of the wrapping from the showroom. How about a Sierra? You know, the Sierra ... the car that Ford stopped making almost two years ago and replaced with the Mondeo.

Two years would seem long enough to have cleared out even the largest stocks of an outdated model, but the latest figures for the motor industry's sales in August make bizarre reading.

There, in 157th place, is the Sierra with 32 cars sold that month. In fact, Ford has sold 178 so far this year.

Why wait two years to buy a Sierra? More to the point, where has Ford been hiding them all this time?

The fascination in the figures, helpfully stripped down by the magazine *Automotive Management*, is not what tops the best-seller charts but what nestles down at the bottom, usually hidden from prying eyes because their sales statistics are never published.

As expected, the bottom half of the rankings includes a gaggle of expensive, exotic cars — Bentleys and Ferraris — that few people can afford. But the Sierra makes a guest appearance along with a number of models that were presumed dead and buried.

At number 152 is the Citroën BX, long replaced by the Xantia, and there are sales of Vauxhall Carltons and Senators — superseded by the Omega six months ago. Even two Lancia models — the Thema and the Delta — appear in the charts 11 months after the Italian company pulled out of Britain. And seven Vauxhall Novas put the defunct model into the bottom ten.

> "Sierras and other defunct models are still selling"

But the Sierra is the oddball entrant. So, why would anyone want to buy such an old car? Simon Sprall in Ford's press office says: "It could be they are Sierra Cosworths that have been mothballed and have just come out for the registration plate change."

The 41 August Citroën BXs were all estates, still made to order by a specialist company in France, and still apparently sought after — quite a tribute to the excellent load-carrying capabilities of Citroën's old wagon.



Citroën sold 41 BX estates — still made to order by a specialist company in France

Sliding further down the table is a curious collection of the expensive and the unloved.

August, with the change to the next registration letter, gives a perspective on which cars appeal most because it is the busiest month of the year, when a quarter of all new car sales are made and most are bought with a personal cheque instead of being selected by companies for their fleets.

Ford Escorts, Fiestas and Mondeos as well as Vauxhall Astras and Cavaliers regularly appear at the top of the motoring hit parade, so which were the rarest sales during the August rush?

The NSX from Honda — a 160mph supercar — barely got out of first gear to struggle to 12 sales, which takes the grand total for the year to 19. It is strange that the NSX has simply failed to capture the imagination of sports-car buyers for, even at £63,000, it is a remarkable beast.

At that price, I suppose, the passion of the badge accounts for more than simple performance statistics, which is why the NSX is at number 169 in the charts.

Also at 169 comes Nissan's Prairie with 12.

Equal at 171, with 11 sold, is the Subaru SVX — an extremely odd-looking sports car, costing £30,500 — and Jaguar's Majestic — a made-to-order stretched version of the company's saloon, costing £10,000 more than standard.

The Vauxhall Nova is equal at 173 with Mercedes' G-Wagen. At a time when the world and his wife seem to want a 4x4, the best Mercedes could do with its admittedly unbelievably ugly G-Wagen was seven sales in August and 29 all year. In contrast, Land Rover sold 4,777 Discoverys in August alone.

Number 175 in the list is also a surprising flop, the Renault A610. Those in the know rate this car as highly as any supercar, but again the badge must be holding back sales, although why, when this particular supercar sells at a shade under £30,000, will have to remain a mystery.

Then three cars tie for the title of worst-selling car in August. The Lancia Delta is no surprise, given that there aren't supposed to be any, while Mazda's RX-7 — another desirable car which apparently has the appeal of halitosis — is also there.

And wagging the tail of *Automotive Management*'s list: the Porsche 928 — £73,000 worth of roaring German technology with power, pace and passion — but with only three buyers.



Mazda sold three RX-7s — a desirable car but equal last in the sellers' list

Mercedes sold seven of its 4x4 G-Wagens (right)

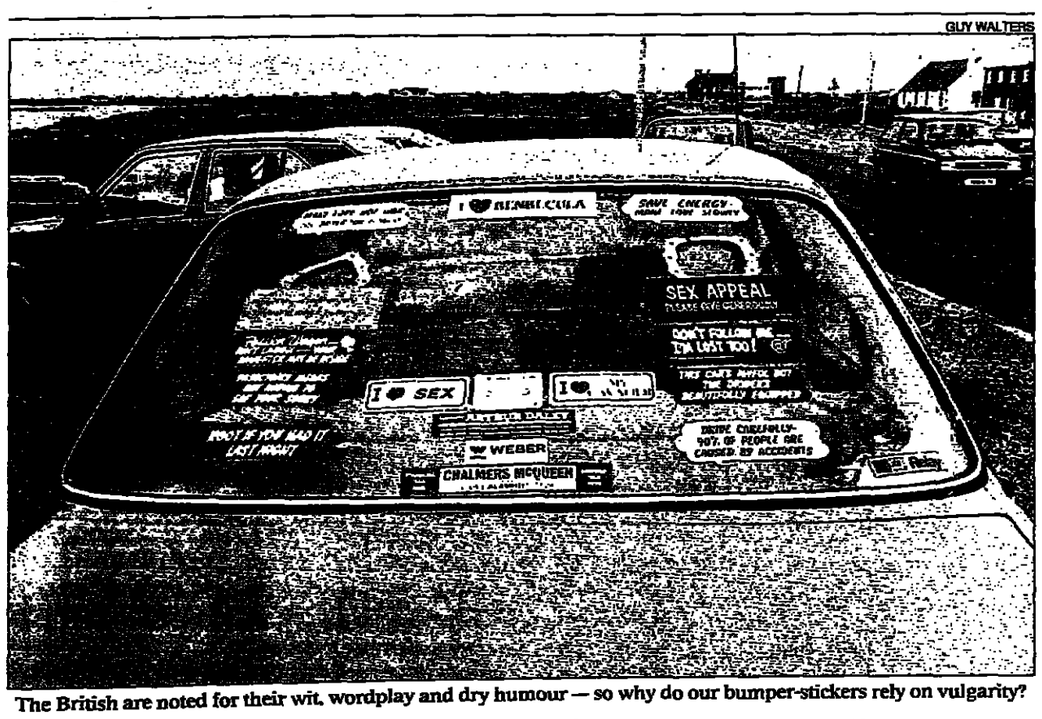
Ford sold 32 Sierras, despite having stopped making them two years ago

TOP TEN BEST SELLERS IN AUGUST

1 Ford Escort (34,758)
2 Ford Fiesta (33,403)
3 Ford Mondeo (26,346)
4 Vauxhall Astra (20,506)
5 Vauxhall Cavalier (20,256)
6 Rover 200 (17,662)
7 Vauxhall Corsa (16,692)
8 Peugeot 106 (13,249)
9 Renault Clio (12,746)
10 Rover Metro (11,861)

BOTTOM TEN

169= Honda NSX (12)
169= Nissan Prairie (12)
171= Subaru SVX (11)
171= Jaguar XJS Majestic (11)
173= Vauxhall Nova (7)
173= Mercedes G-Wagen (7)
175 Renault A610 (5)
176= Lancia Delta (3)
176= Mazda RX-7 (3)
176= Porsche 928 (3)



GUY WALTERS

The British are noted for their wit, wordplay and dry humour — so why do our bumper-stickers rely on vulgarity?

My other bumper-sticker is funny

Announcing a *Times* competition to improve the level of car humour

Most of us know that bumper stickers are intrinsically unfunny. Those who have them are of the type who will tell you, "I like a laugh; I have a sense of humour." But what is amusing about "Honk if you had it last night"; "Windsurfers do it standing up"; "This car supplied by Arthur Daley Motors"; "This car may be c*** but it's in front of you"; "0 to 60 in 12 minutes" or ... *(insert your personal favourite here)*?

You've heard that rant before; the views expressed are doubtless in accordance with those held by 97 per cent of the population. But — and it's a big but — can there be a bumper-sticker that *is* funny?

The British are noted for their ironic wit, their wordplay and a sense of humour that is drier than the bar at a motorway services. However, we Brits are also noted for our scatology and vulgarity, and it appears that these two were the only winners of the bumper-sticker franchise. It seems shameful that wit, wordplay and dryness are not represented on the bumpers of our nation's cars.

A friend once found a funny bumper sticker. He was behind a Rolls-Royce which proudly displayed that old chestnut: "My other car's a Rolls-Royce". He laughed. I laughed. It was funny. The owner had, with a normally unfunny sticker, created a whole new joke. It displayed ironic wit and dryness, and yes, vulgarity. But what is important is that here was a bumper-sticker that was genuinely funny.

However, the owner could have done a little better. If the Rolls-Royce was a Corniche, for example, then perhaps he could have had a bumper-sticker saying, "I've given up the Ghost".

Sadly, that sticker isn't as yet available in your local Halfords or motorway service station. Admittedly, it has a small customer base, but an ironic sticker can surely be produced for a mass market.

But here we enter the realms of that other British characteristic, reserve. Few of us are willing to wear our hearts on our sleeves, let alone display an epithet on our bumper. There is something ostentatious about doing so, and besides, we feel that it might give something away to the people in the car behind. So what? You're hardly telling them how much you earn — your car pretty much does that for you anyway.

So, this is where we announce a competition to bring car humour out of the gutter.

Readers are invited to send in their suggestions for bumper-stickers that display those qualities enthused over above.

Multiple entries are acceptable, and the writers of the best 12 will each receive a set of *Times* furry dice to hang in their car.

Entries on a postcard please, and to reach *The Times* Bumper-Sticker Competition, *Times Weekend*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, by December 5. The judges' decision is final.

The sender of the most unfunny suggestion will receive two sets of furry dice.

GUY WALTERS

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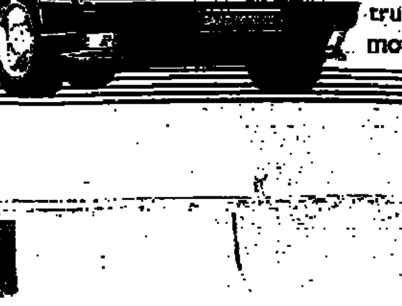
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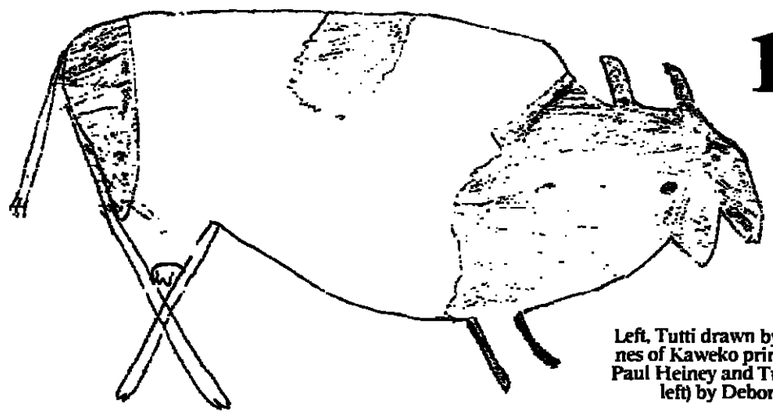
Births: to Tutti, the cow paid for by *Times* readers and donated to a Ugandan village family, a bull calf with a mission

Tutti's little bull brings new joy in the bush



CHRIS STEELE-PERKINS/MAGNUM

Paul Heiney with Tutti and the Kiwanuku family: Right: Tutti, by a young artist, Nakawoya



Left, Tutti drawn by Minis Meeme Agnes of Kaweko primary school. Below, Paul Heiney and Tutti (as in picture far left) by Deborah Kiwanuku



FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

In a shed in the Ugandan bush a black and white calf has been born. Yes, Tutti has given birth to a strapping bull calf. Tutti, you will remember, was the Friesian heifer paid for by readers of this column and sent to Africa last summer to carry out vital work, not only in feeding a family but in adding to the prosperity of her new home in many subtle ways.

Until there was a calf, and consequently a flow of milk, there was no benefit from her being there. Indeed, for Betty and Lazaro Kiwanuku and their family of eleven, it was all a great act of faith. They had worked for a year to prepare their tiny farm for Tutti's arrival; building the cowshed, and learning how to feed and care for her without any guarantee that she would even arrive. But the dream came true — as it will for others, thanks to your donations, which have topped £30,000.

I shall never forget the moment of the handing over of Tutti: Betty falling at my feet in tears, the children singing hymns as they stroked "Kisa-Kyu-Katondo". ("God is Grace") as Tutti had been renamed. Now that they have been blessed with a calf. Tutti's work can really begin.

She will be milked, which will add to the children's indifferent diet, and will provide surplus milk which the Kiwanukus can sell to pay for education, which is not free in Uganda. But the benefits spread wider. With a little cash from the sale of milk they will employ someone to help to plant and harvest the feed for the cow, and so create jobs in their village, Metyana, 40 miles west of Kampala. The entire community gains.

Even the young children sensed the importance of the coming of Tutti, and with the crayons I gave them they have drawn glorious pictures of Tutti and her home, with labels saying "Baby Cow's Room", "Room of Eating" and "Outside to get Sunshine". Tutti is truly a star.

Had her calf been a heifer it would have been given, at weaning, to another family in need of a cow. This is a condition of the "Send-a-Cow" scheme, which was started six years ago by a group of West Country farmers. But Tutti's calf is a bull and so has a different career to look forward to: the "Village Bull" scheme is also a vital part of the plan; without bulls there will be no next generation and the precious flow of milk will cease.

Bulls are placed in villages where the maximum number of cows will have access to them. The bull-keepers are taught to build strengthened buildings to house them, and they learn techniques to ensure the proper service of the cows. Artificial insemination is used but, as any farmer knows, there are some cows for whom only a bull can do the job.

I confess that I can now breathe a sigh of relief. At the back of my mind was always the thought that some kind of accident might befall Tutti or her calf, because it has to be accepted that where there is livestock there is also deadstock. I knew the losses among cows sent to Uganda were below what a farmer in Britain would expect (each cow gets much more attention than here as a mere member of a herd), but there's always the nagging doubt.

I was not worried for Tutti's sake, because she was being as well-cared for as any cow could expect. But imagine the devastating effect that her loss would have had on the Kiwanuku family.

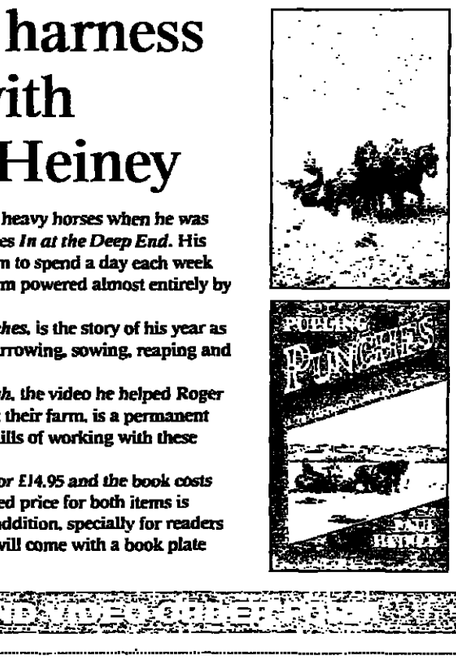
This thought was brought home to me last week when our dear old Prudence died. She was a lovely cow, bought from a Gloucestershire farm where her milking figures did not justify keeping her in a commercial herd. But on our farm, where she had only calves to suckle, she did a magnificent job, and was the most generous of cows with her milk. I have seen her on the meadow letting strange calves have a suck; she was the vending machine of the farm.

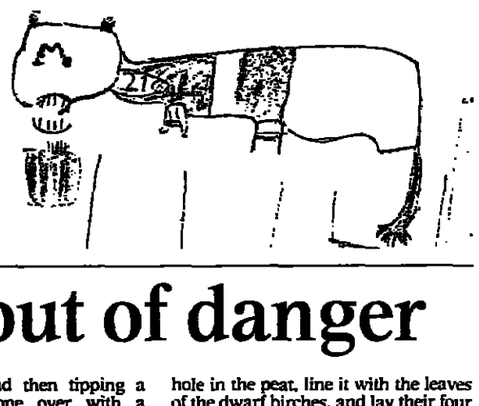
The vet was here as soon as I saw her to be a bit wobbly on her legs, but we could not save her. She closed her beautiful eyes, and was gone, just like that. I console myself with the thought that had I not bought her in the first place she would not have lived as long. She had three good years here.

We have other cows. We are lucky. In Uganda, or in any peasant society, such a loss must be unbearable.

Prudence has gone, but there is a new life in a village in Uganda, and the generous nature of the cow is eternal.

● *Donations to Send-a-Cow can be addressed to Unit 4, Priston Mill, Bath BA2 9EQ.*





Pictures of Tutti (renamed "Kisa-Kyu-Katondo" — "God is Grace") feeding in the cowshed built for her by Betty and Lazaro Kiwanuku's family, and out in the pasture with a young admirer and artist, Sekitto Nappo

Twisting and turning out of danger

Feather Report

THE sandpipers are a large family of northern birds including such species as the curlews, the godwits and the redshanks, and smaller birds such as dunlins and sanderlings. Many of them spend their winters along the shore, digging into the sand with their long beaks, or skipping over the breaking waves to see what delicacies the tide has brought in.

They are usually rather nervous birds, shooting up in a flock when alarmed, and gyrating in the sky. Dunlins twist and turn in the air in enormous flocks. Why they turn, and the way in which they co-ordinate their movements, are intriguing questions that have recently been investigated.

It seems that they usually change direction when a new bird joins the flock. If one comes into it from the right, for example, the birds nearest to it swing left. The birds next to them register the movement very quickly, and change direction too. The movement spreads like a wave through the whole flock from right to left — in fact, to the human eye, the birds seem to move almost simultaneously.

Danger passed, they all swoop down and alight on the beach again, lifting their wings high above their heads for a moment before they settle.

The common redshank is the most timid of all. It has been called the "warden of the marshes" because it goes up into the sky yodelling at the slightest sign of any danger. However, there is one very tame and confident sandpiper that comes to our rocky coasts for the winter — the purple sandpiper. I remember a haunting afternoon watching one at the edge of an Icelandic fjord. On the hill behind me, a snow bunting was singing in the sunshine; far away over the water, there was a confused swirl of brown and white forms where arctic skuas were harrying the gulls to make them drop the food in their beaks. I could hear the faint cries and screams from where I was sitting on a rock.

Then a purple sandpiper came trotting along the pebbles — a neat little bird, the size of a thrush, with darker plumage than most of the small sandpipers, and with yellow legs. It clambered nimbly on to some wet stones, totally ignoring me, and picked out some morsels of seafood, now and then tipping a stone over with a rattling sound.

It is not difficult to find purple sandpipers at the moment up on the Northumberland coast, or on stony beaches along the east of Scotland, and you might come across a little flock on almost any pebbly shore in Britain. They are just as trusting here as my Iceland bird was, and it is at this time of the year that you can see the feature that gives them their name — a fine purple gloss on their back when the light catches it.



Jacques

The purple sandpiper's confidence is unusual: most sandpipers take flight at the least threat

Once they have arrived in Britain, they are inclined to stay on the same stretch of beach until the spring. They are also faithful to the same beach each year, and one of them ringed on the Isle of May was found there again 14 winters later.

They go back to the northern tundra in the spring, where they make a neat hole in the peat, line it with the leaves of the dwarf birches, and lay their four eggs in it. A pair bred in Britain for the first time, it is believed, in 1978, and now a few pairs stay to nest every year in the same area in the northwest mountains of Scotland. There is every likelihood that their numbers will increase.

However, this is the southern limit of their breeding area, and most British birdwatchers know them only as winter birds. They do not mix much with the other waders, who prefer sandy or muddy shores. Their main companions are turnstones — beautiful little waders with tortoiseshell backs that also prefer stones, and toss them about in their search for food even more energetically than the purple sandpipers. Both of them like winkles and mussels.

The purple sandpipers also forage in the seaweed, prodding it with their beaks for tasty flies.

That is my image of a purple sandpiper: a kind of portly gentleman of the bird world, poking about on the seashore with his walking-stick, and paying not the slightest attention to anyone else.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — Listen for snatches of birdsong in the unseasonal warm weather. Twitchers — Dusky warbler at Dawlish Warren, Devon; Blyth's pipit at South Swale Nature Reserve, Kent; Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 39p a minute cheap rate, 49p at all other times*

THE TIMES
READER OFFER

In the harness with Paul Heiney

Paul Heiney learnt about heavy horses when he was making the television series *In at the Deep End*. His love of the animals led him to spend a day each week for a year on a Suffolk farm powered almost entirely by horses.

His book, *Pulling Punches*, is the story of his year as apprentice horseman – harrowing, sowing, reaping and helping at horse shows.

Harnessed to the Plough, the video he helped Roger and Cheryl Clark make at their farm, is a permanent record of the fast-dying skills of working with these huge, gentle animals.

The video is available for £14.95 and the book costs £5.95. The special combined price for both items is £18.90, a saving of £2. In addition, specially for readers of The Times, each book will come with a book plate signed by the author.

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TANZANIA: **Simon Barnes** explores the Ngorongoro Crater, a dramatic natural haven for megafauna

Dreamy days in the Garden of Eden

The Garden of Eden is *not a piece of mythology.* It is a geographical location. The more you think about it, the more it becomes the obvious place for a holiday. The traditional sun'n'sand holiday is based on confused notions of afterlife: an eternity of warmth and comfort, no cares, few clothes, loved one at your side and never ever cold. Heaven: the pefect retirement: the place to which the robber absconds: all these things reduce to a palm tree and a drink with a paper umbrella in it.

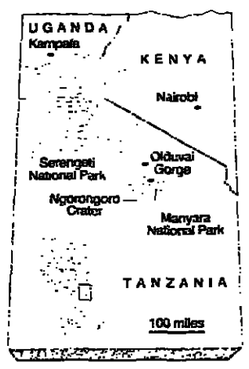
Such an existence *might* well pall after the first few million years, or perhaps the first couple of days. It makes more sense to seek not afterlife, but beforelife. And so I tend to seek the bush: wilderness: Eden.

And I can state, categorically, that I have visited Eden. No metaphor. The real thing.

Just a few miles away from *the Garden of Eden* lies the Olduvai Gorge, a deep fissure through the variegated seams of time. It is here in northern Tanzania that some of the oldest ancestors of humankind have been found: shattering discoveries of such upright fellows as *Australopithecus robustus* and *Homo habilis*.

It can hardly be coincidence that a short march away from this tumultuously ancient place lies the great walled garden: a place in a relict state of innocence. The Ngorongoro Crater.

In a life made tough by nature and tougher still by the inheritors of *Homo habilis*, the Crater represents the last soft touch left on earth for the earth's most prodigious megafauna. This was once a volcano, but 2.5 million years ago, and more than half a million years before *Homo habilis* was hammering his tools, the whole thing collapsed. What remains is a caldera guarding a garden more than 12 miles in diameter.



Inside its claustrophobic immensity stands permanent water. That means permanent grazing, which means permanent herbivores, which mean permanent eaters of flesh. Nowhere on earth has so high a density of large mammals: buffalo, wildebeest, zebra, gazelle, preyed on by leopard, hyena, lion: a circular garden enclosing an unending cycle of eating and being eaten: of death and of birth. Life, in short.

The Crater walls are no obstacle to any beast, however and apparently unwieldy: elephant regularly ascend and descend the walls. But on the floor of the Crater is a life of plenty. There is no reason to go, every reason to stay. It is a place out of time, out of the common run: a place where normal rules are suspended, or at least, slowed down. In a day and a half on the Crater floor, I had ten sightings of black rhinoceros. On the Crater floor an animal close to extinction is a quotidien sight.

A huge female, front horn curved back to complete a perfect quadrant, its tip reaching several inches beyond the rear horn. How much is that worth to the Chinese medicine trade?

But the geology that gives *the animals protection from* the rigours of the natural world also gives protection from the unnatural rigours of *life in the modern world: life* alongside postlapsarian humankind.

This compact, walled area is *easier to police against poaching* than any other game area in the world: here, at worst, the great walls postpone the inevitable. In 1965 there were 100 rhinos living on the Crater floor: today, fewer than 20. So many still: a kind of miracle.

To watch two rhinos, a mother and her daughter, in a complex grooming interaction, one using the chin of the other to scratch the unreachable bit on top of the neck, imparts a strange sense of privilege.

Some people think of rhinos as creatures straight from the Jurassic, beasts way beyond their sell-by date. But these are modern mammals admirably evolved for the present day. The only problem is that evolution didn't take into account such things as money and Chinese superstition: the lunatic notion that eating rhino horn will somehow help you to live forever.

But on the floor of the Crater such things can be forgotten for a while. So can much of the rest of the 20th century.

The tourism is reasonably discreet, and the dominant sound of the Crater is not the rumble of Land Rover, but the strange double-bark of zebra: "qua-ha, qua-ha". I stood for an hour watching a foal separated from its breeding group. Galloping madly about the plain, qua-ha-ing in a frenzy, it associated first with one group, then with another, always finding the wrong one, while I, powerless to help, radioed directions to the hapless, long-legged thing: "Over there! Over *there*! On your right, you daft little . . ."

Eventually, no doubt aided by this extra-sensory guidance, it found its place again, grazing alongside a mare sublimely unmoved by the whole business. She knew, of course, that all lessons are hard lessons, even in the Crater.

All the time I was down on the Crater floor, I felt one of those odd sensations, when you know the place reminds you strongly of somewhere else but you can't quite put your finger on it. As I ascended the walls for the last time, I had it. Venice.

Yes. Unique. Wonderful entirely, but not to be considered in the same breath as the rest of the world, still less as a template for city life or practical conservation. The Ngorongoro Crater has the same spooky, utterly Venetian feeling of having somehow slipped through the fingers of time.

And the odd feeling of claustrophobia. Claustrophobia? In wilderness? Not unpleasantly so, no, but it existed. And then I remembered that Napoleon decribed St Mark's Square as "the finest drawing room in Europe", a comment not so much on its elegance as on the feeling of inferiority the place generates.

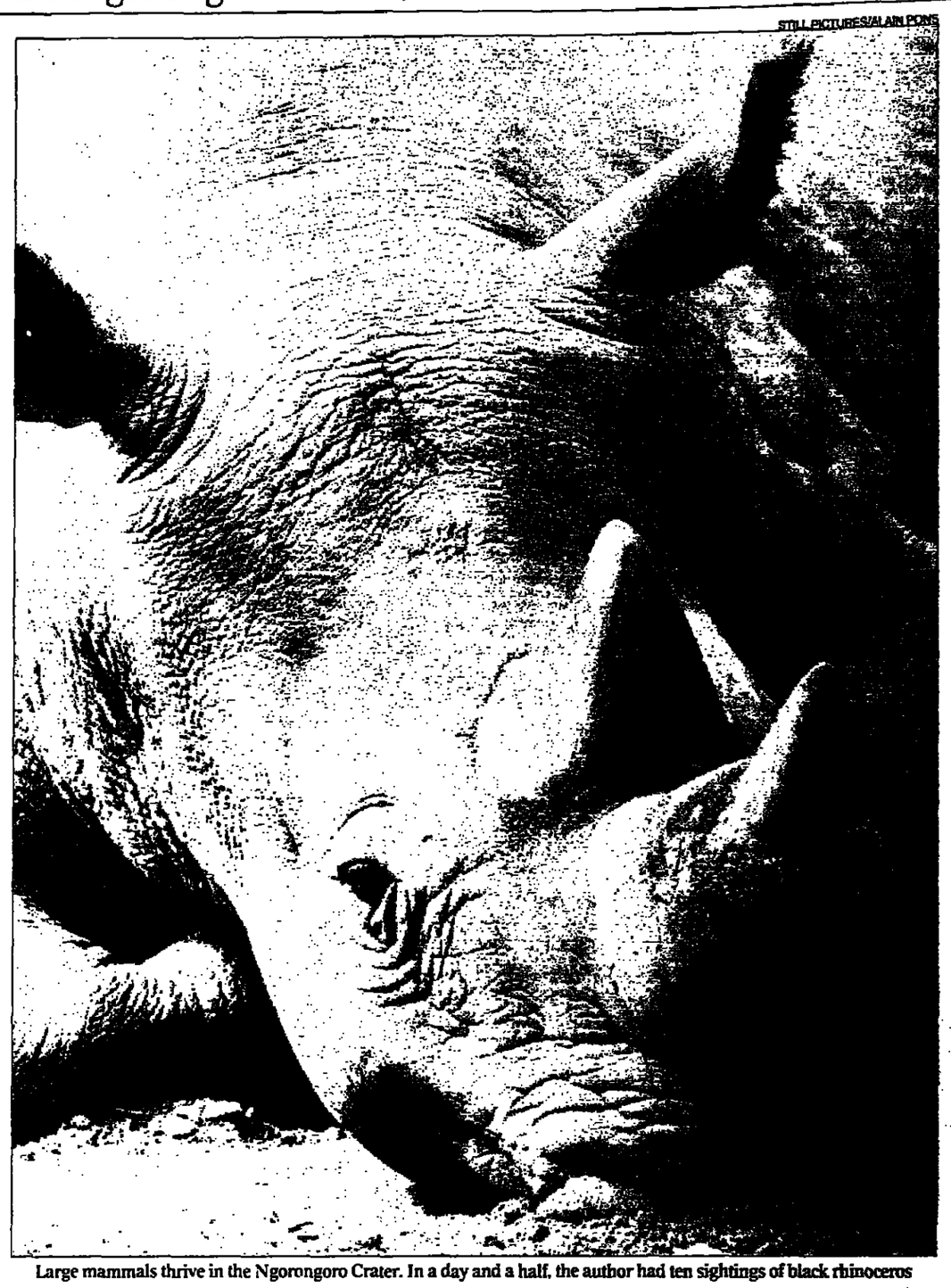
Inside the Crater the same feeling comes again. You speak not of the Crater bottom but of its floors; not of the cliff but of its walls. And climbing the walls brings an odd sense of returning to real life.

Not cities, no: real life in terms of the Serengeti, big-skied and ever-rambling, or of Manyara, where the lion climb trees. That kind of real: matters readily accessible in this country, and, of course, quite unforgettable.

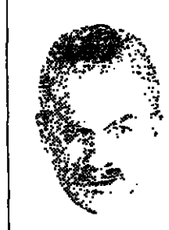
If humankind continues on its — our — present course, the Crater cannot survive forever. Perhaps it will be the last place to go. But the ultimate creation crime is despair, and despair, while Eden still stands, is impossible.

Oh brave old world that has such creatures in it.

STILL PICTURES/ALAIN PONS



Large mammals thrive in the Ngorongoro Crater. In a day and a half, the author had ten sightings of black rhinoceros



TRAVEL TIPS

☐ The German Travel Service (01992 456111) is offering trips to traditional Christmas markets on the Continent. The destinations for the two-night breaks include Bremen, Nüremberg, Augsburg, Vienna and Salzburg. The markets are best known for their toys, crafts, candles and festive tableware. Prices range from £241 per person at the three-star Hotel Zür Post in Bremen, to £325 at the three-star Hotel Alpenhof in Augsburg. Scheduled flights run daily until December 24.

☐ Explore Worldwide (0252 319448) offers a two-week package to Morocco, leaving Heathrow for Marrakesh on December 27, for £560 per person. The trip includes coach travel through the Atlas mountains from Marrakesh to the Kasbah towns of Taroudant and Tafraout, staying at two-star hotels, and four days walking in the foothills of the Atlas mountains, staying overnight in Berber village houses.

☐ A Rail Shop has opened in Manchester to meet the demand for European rail travel. There are already Rail Shops in London and Glasgow. The telephone number (0345 300 003, charged at local rate) is common to all three. Offices provide a range of tickets and discount cards for rail travel to destinations throughout mainland Europe. Rail Shops also book Eurostar from London to Paris, Lille and Brussels.

CHRISTINE WHEELER

Fact file

☐ **Simon Barnes was a guest of Worldwide Journeys and Expeditions (071-381-9638, fax 071-381-0836), which offers two-week visits from £2,445, *including all meals and return* KLM flights from London (via Amsterdam) to Kilimanjaro. The 100-mile air or road trip to Ngorongoro and camping arrangements are organised by Hoopoe Adventure Tours, PO Box 2047, Arusha, Tanzania.**

☐ **Tanzania is a rewarding place for viewing game. Hoopoe guests travel by Land Rover and stay at small, private camps. Kirurumu tented lodge stands at the top of the Rift Valley Escarpment and looks down over Manyara National Park. The walk-in tents have *en suite* facilities. A bush camp in Serengeti, also operated by Hoopoe, is comfortable and surrounded by lion music. Tour shedules can be adjusted to *suit clients' wishes.***

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هكذا من الاعلى

How to destroy the Caribbean

IN TWO years' time, depending on the efficiency of Europe's shipbuilders, 22 new cruise ships will be plying between the world's duty-free quays.

Their combined tonnage will be a little over 1.4 million, providing an additional 38,000 berths and bringing the total number of berths on ocean cruises to around 150,000.

These extra cruise places may be a drop in — or preferably on — the ocean compared to the World Tourism Organisation's estimate that 700 million people will be travelling the globe by the end of the century, but it is not quite as simple as that. The problem with cruise passengers is not how many there are but where they are. And the answer is that most of them will be in the Caribbean. More than half the cruises in the world are concentrated on this relatively small patch of sea whose countries, fortunately or unfortunately, are arranged like stepping stones for seven-day cruises from the ports of Florida.



PETER HUGHES

So these extra thousands of holidaymakers will not be scattered discreetly about the seven seas but will all be descending on the same small harbour more or less at once. It is the difference between a river and a flash flood, snowfall and avalanche. Five of the ships under construction will each have more than 2,000 berths.

The objections to these new ships and the extra visitors they will bring are both economic and cultural.

West Indies hoteliers complain of unfair competition because they claim the cruise companies are too lightly taxed and can undercut their local prices. And, of course, the visitors do not stay on the islands but retreat to their ships overnight.

Neither side trusts the other's figures about how much passengers spend ashore, but the ship-board shops are not in business to be undercut by their quayside competitors.

The dispute has escalated to the point where 18 months ago the shipping lines walked out of the Caribbean Tourism Organisation. There is talk now of a peace process under which they will walk back in again.

But my concern is not so much what cruising is or isn't doing to the islands' economies as to what it is doing to their people.

However unwitting, there is a certain imperialism about cruising. The assurance of returning each night to the ship, to its European or American officers, international food, familiar entertainment and guaranteed security is all based on the implication that the same standards cannot be found on land.

Mass market cruises are a kind of cultural ducking stool, plunging people for a few hours at a time into a succession of different countries whose distinctiveness comes down to the state of their roads, the price of their beer, the variety of their handicrafts and the seat you managed to get in the minibus.

This is "convenience travel", ticking off experiences like shopping in a supermarket.

It can be undignified too. In Ocho Rios, in Jamaica, I have seen cruise excursions greeted by prostitutes at the pierhead and people aggressively vying to be photographed for a dollar a time — men with chickens on their shoulders and foliage in their hair, donkeys decorated with hibiscus flowers and croton leaves. They were grotesque scenes, demeaning and alienating to everyone.

THAT NIGHT in the cabaret the comedian (American) said: "Isn't it nice to know there are still places to bomb where you can't do more than $8 worth of damage." He was cheered to the davits.

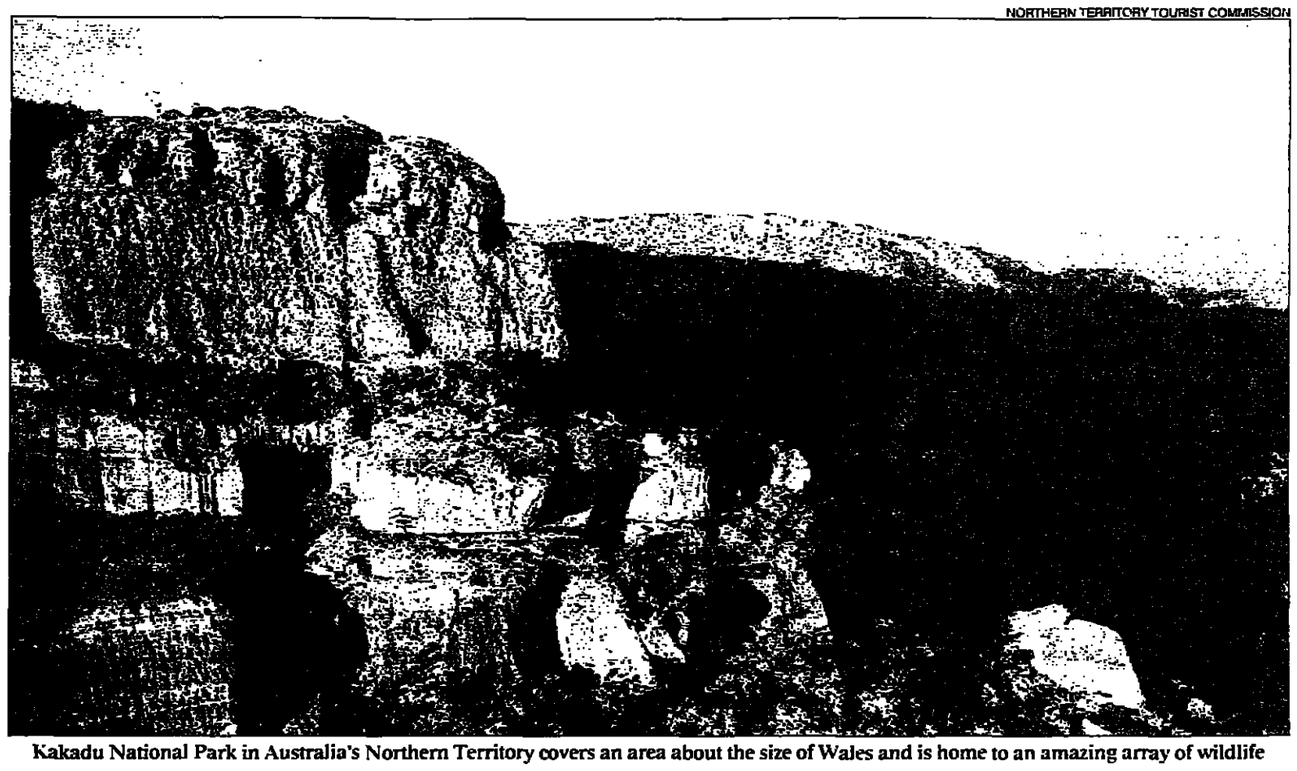
Cruise lines cannot be blamed for the poverty of the ports they put into or even for every tasteless quip of their entertainers. But cruising, one of the fastest growing branches of tourism, is amphibious. The shipping companies need to pay as much attention to the way they conduct their operations on land as they do on the ocean wave. Otherwise, cruising could end up all at sea.

● *Peter Hughes is a former editor of the ITV programme* Wish You Were Here..?

AUSTRALIA: Go walkabout or explore the hazardous rivers of a protected outback

Dip into crocodile country

NORTHERN TERRITORY TOURIST COMMISSION



Kakadu National Park in Australia's Northern Territory covers an area about the size of Wales and is home to an amazing array of wildlife

A pall of smoke eddied low in the western sky and the late afternoon sun glared through the orange curtain, giving the hills and surrounding forest an imprecise and somewhat eerie overtone.

A bush fire is a reasonably normal occurrence in Australia, but this was big and in a national park. Yet no screaming fire engines appeared, with khaki-clad rangers hanging off them, to douse the flames. This fire was lit deliberately as part of the park's management plan.

The park is Kakadu, in the far north of Australia, where fire has been a regular controlling element for perhaps 50,000 years. That's how long the Aborigines have been living there, using fire to clear the bush, to improve their hunting and to help them to manage the environment.

Other, more permanent, vestiges of Aboriginal activity are imprinted on rock surfaces, in caves and shelters throughout the park: stick-like figures frozen in movement, their forward-thrusting bodies and racing arms and legs caught in mid-stride; paintings of fish and wallabies, as though laid out on a dissecting table and X-rayed; simple naturalistic representations of animals and human beings. There is the outline of a hand, fingers spread wide, created by the artist blowing a mouthful of pigment over his outstretched hand, and pictures of spirits and events from Aboriginal mythology.

One of the most important paintings, at Ubirr, is of a Rainbow Serpent, representing a spirit-woman called Kuringali. Legend has it that as she travelled through the country she would paint her image on a rock to remind the people that she had been there. Aborigines often describe her as the "boss lady", a very powerful being who is always present. In Aboriginal tales, she usually rests in quiet waterways but, if irritated, she is capable of causing floods or other disasters.

The extent of Aboriginal heritage and culture found at the park has helped it to gain a World Heritage listing.

Kakadu is one of the world's largest national parks, covering 19,800 square kilometres, an area about the size of Wales. It includes almost the entire drainage system of the South Alligator river, with its range of habitats from the hills and plateau of the south, through low wooded ridges, down to expanses of wetlands and finally to the mangrove-fringed coastline and estuaries. The environment is home to an amazing array of wildlife. Current estimates are that the river supports more than 1,600 species of plants, 10,000 species of insects and 280 species of birds.

Only about 300 people live in the park permanently, nearly all Aborigines who are regarded as the traditional owners, descendants of the first people to settle there. They now have a major say in how the park is managed.

They still maintain many of their traditional customs and beliefs. Their way of life is largely dictated by two main seasons — "dry", from May to September (also the cooler time of year), and "wet" from November to March.

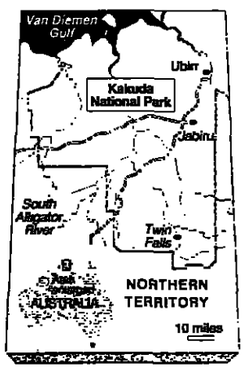
During the wet season, great thunderclouds build up, storms are often violent and flooding occurs, restricting access to many parts of the park. This is also known as the "green" season, because there is an explosion of plant life.

During the dry season, the land dries out, smaller creeks stop flowing, the diminishing billabongs (waterholes separated from the main rivers) become crowded with waterbirds, and the country gradually turns brown — except along the waterways.

The once-thundering waterfalls now become approachable, but it isn't that straightforward. You need a four-wheel drive to get from the main road to one of the escarpments, and even then there is usually a hike to the falls themselves. In the case of one of the most spectacular, Twin Falls, access is by water only. A few people swim, but the better prepared blow up airbeds and paddle the 1km to the water-filled gorge. Here a broad expanse of golden sand fringes the deep clear pool at the base of the falls. Sunbathers, lying out on the sand or idly paddling about on their airbeds, lend a touch of the Riviera. The more adventurous clamber up the precipitous slopes before leaping into the water below.

Crocodiles? Yes, they are here — but ignored. At this distance from the sea, there are only freshwater crocodiles, and the general consensus is that a "freshie" will not attack humans. Closer to the sea are estuarine crocodiles, which should be avoided. A "saltie" is a much larger creature, with a larger mouth and teeth, and much more aggressive.

"Salties" do and will attack, and every watercourse in the lowlands has warning signs against swimming or wading. But these crocodiles are not limited to salt water, and are found in the low-lying freshwater wetlands, such as the complex of waterways known as Yellow Waters.



Here, the mist hangs low over the water as the viewing boat slips gently away from its moorings. The silence is broken by the distant call of a duck, and the impatient flap of wings overhead. Gradually the sun rises as a diffuse orange ball through the enveloping mist.

Suddenly, there is a flash of white as a giant egret moves along the bank searching for food. The sun then reaches the shoreline, which sparkles into vivid green. Other birds, resting on the shore or among the overhanging trees, come to life. A jabiru (black-necked stork) rises awkwardly on his long pink legs, ruffles its black and white plumage before stalking through the grass. Whistling ducks and burdekin geese scuffle nervously as the boat glides past.

As the air warms up, ripples break the surface of the water, and grey lumps emerge. The crocodiles are about, with only nostrils and horny-browed eyes showing. As the day progresses, they emerge to sun themselves on the water's edge, seemingly oblivious to everything. Egrets and herons warily pick their way past, but without reaction. The boat draws near, its inhabitants craning forward to photograph the leviathan. A sudden flick of the massive tail, a momentary raising of the body on the squat legs, and the crocodile slides into the water. Moments later, it's gone.

The water is clear, and sometimes the crocodiles can be seen, patiently lying in wait. In the main rivers, nearer the coast, the water is darker, a muddier, cloudy green. The wary traveller stays a prudent distance from the banks or, from the safety of the boat, searches for tell-tale ripples.

As the day comes to an end, cockatoos fly screeching into their roosting sites around the camping grounds. The egrets and herons make their final promenade along the edges of the waterways, and the sun turns again into a burnt orange ball as its last rays diffuse through the smoke of the bush fires.

RON CRITTALL

How to get there

☐ Darwin, the capital of Australia's Northern Territory, is the nearest major centre to the Kakadu National Park, 170km away by road. Numerous tours are available out of Darwin, ranging from one-day fly-in "quickies" to full-scale, comprehensive four-wheel-drive expeditions. Vehicles can also be hired in Darwin for do-it-yourself trips, but remember that access to some areas is restricted to four-wheel-drive. Accommodation ranges from the four-star Kakadu "Crocodile" Hotel, to serviced camping grounds.

☐ There are direct flights between Darwin and all other Australian cities. British Airways (081-897 4000) flies to Darwin via Singapore for £1,045.

☐ The main tourist season is during the "dry", from May to September, when conditions are at their coolest and driest — midday temperatures reach 30C. The "wet", from November to March, has very high temperatures and humidity.

☐ For more information contact Lyn Cowan at the Northern Territory Tourist Commission, 612 Kingston Road, London SW20 8DN (081-544 9845).

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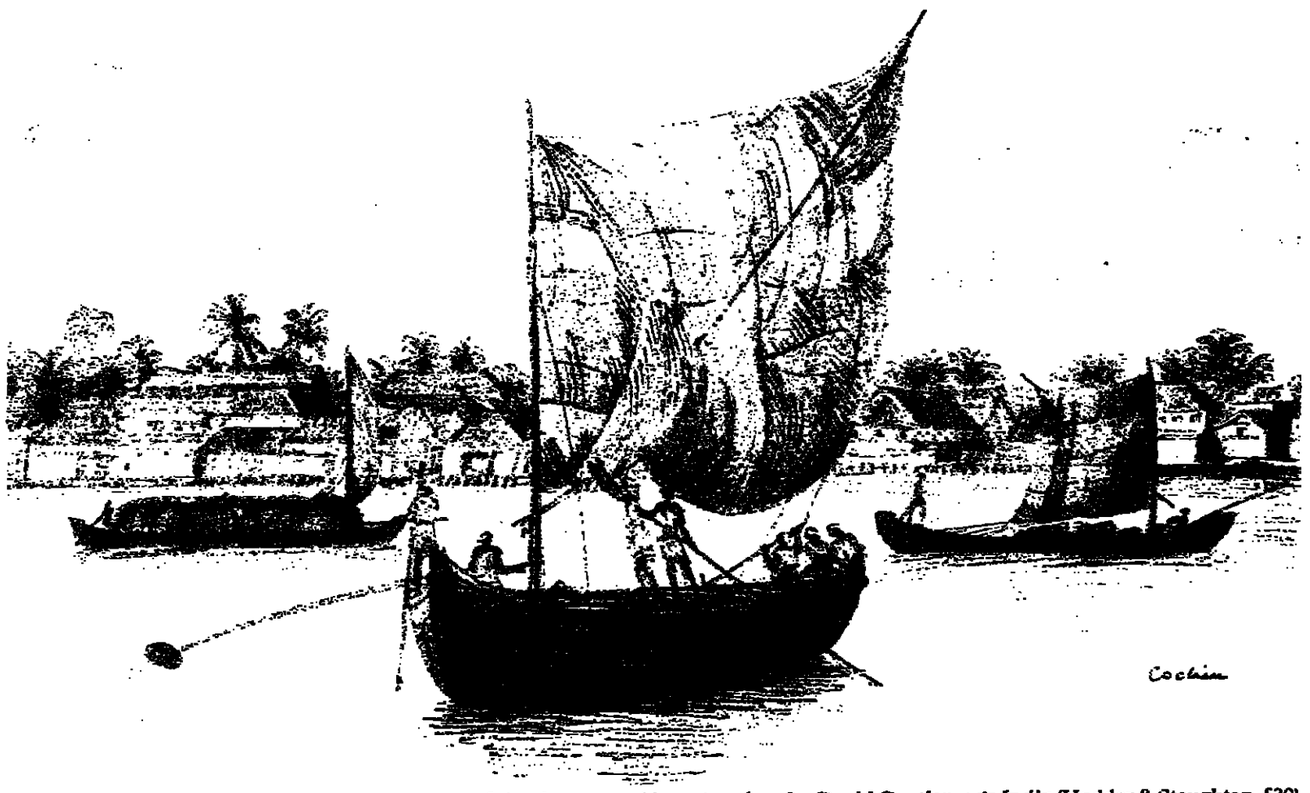
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Where is everybody?

INDIA: Visit the south's temples, churches, shrines and synagogues, with their ever-present pedlars

Where gods and goods go hand in hand



The splendours of Cochin, in the southwestern state of Kerala, captured in watercolour by *David Gentleman's India* (Hodder & Stoughton, £30)

God and mammon are rarely far away from each other in India. Religion in its various guises is one of the central motors of Indian life. As for commerce, Napoleon surely called Britain a nation of shopkeepers only because he never saw the sub-continent. The two consistently jostled for the attention on a tour of the southern states of Kerala and Tamil-Nadu.

Take the extraordinary Shree Meenakshi Temple, a Hindu shrine in Madurai, Tamil-Nadu. You can see the sloping sides of its gopurams, its ornately decorated towers, from miles away. The streets around it are packed with shops, stalls and itinerant pedlars who materialise out of nowhere at the hint of a foreign tour party to try to sell something or lure tourists into their uncle's/cousin's/friend's tailoring establishment.

The hustling doesn't stop once you're out of their clutches and into the temple's high, gloomy corridors. There are more stalls, selling all manner of goods from toys to figures of Hindu deities. The money-makers, if not the money-lenders, are inside the temple and no one is remotely inclined to chase them out. They are all part of the bustle of the place, alive with priests and pilgrims praying and paying homage to a bewildering variety of gods, many in animal form: Ganesh, the elephant, Hanuman, the monkey, and Nandi, the bull, attached to whose shrine was the notice: "Donate liberally and get goddess blessings. Donations exempted from income tax." There was even a real elephant, who blessed all-comers with his trunk on receipt of a small consideration in the nostril, swiftly trousered by his keeper.

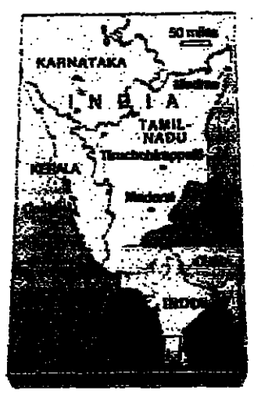
At night, the pool where during the day pilgrims bathed their feet was lit up by a Disneyesque tableau of illuminated figures. More signs advised: "Garden maintained by Bank of Madurai."

Outside, we were borne away by the retinue of hangers-on who had hung on for us. We ended up in a tailor's shop, where I allowed myself to be talked into having two silk shirts made to measure. They cost £5 each and were delivered to our hotel as promised 12 hours later.

Three hours' nerve-wracking drive or 25 minutes' smooth flight away lies the city of Tiruchchirappalli. Two more temples there, the first more of a shrine at the summit of the Rock Fort, an imposing edifice dominating the town from a slab of stone that rises suddenly from the flatlands around it. At the entrance another elephant, this time a baby one chained fore and aft, rocked unhappily back and forth. A severely crippled old woman was hauling her way slowly up the 437 red-and-white painted steps towards the top. If she ever made it, she would first have encountered two drinks stalls and then a little shrine to Ganesh in the centre of a platform from which you can view the whole city below.

I was beckoned inside the shrine by one of the two priests, who daubed my forehead and hair with grey ash and then thrust forward a silver tray on which I laid a ten-rupee note before retiring to the drinks stands for a welcome mango juice.

Then it was on to the Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, India's biggest, formed by seven separate places of worship one within the other, the smallest and holiest of them topped off with a golden dome. Again, the dusty streets leading to the temple were jammed with pedestrians, pedlars, cyclists, auto-rickshaws, cars and the odd ox-drawn cart. Small boys with baskets of petals and basil leaves for pilgrims fought with each other to sell to the few tourists, from whom a better price might be extracted. Scrawny young women with babies in arms pleaded for alms.



Street life, from *India Modern* (Phaidon, £29.99)

The halls of the temple itself were oases of calm. Pilgrims stretched out in the shade. In one corner, a group ate their lunch of rice; in another, women washed their clothes and laid them out in the sun to dry. The walls were covered with the most fantastic carved figures. Try as our guide, Kanaan, did to explain them, I soon lost track of who was who, not for the first time on the trip. The beggars and children pursued us back to the bus, clawing at our arms. Western tourists rarely get used to this; for some, it is an unpleasant side to their holiday, though not as unpleasant as the lives of the beggars.

We had another duty in Tiruchchirappalli, to find the tomb of Bishop Reginald Heber, a distinguished 19th-century hymn writer and Bishop of Calcutta, who had the misfortune to drown "while bathing" during a tour of his diocese in 1826. He was a direct ancestor of Emily Heber-Percy, leader of our tour party, who was naturally keen to pay her respects. We volunteered to join her, affording us the opportunity to visit St John's church, built only ten years before the bishop's tragic tour. We found his tomb in the sanctuary beside the altar. There was also a plaque on the wall above it and a three-piece stained-glass window behind the altar in memory of what must have been the biggest event in the parish's history before or since.

Outside, the imposing tombs of Britons, many of them in their twenties or thirties, who died in the service of the Raj, stood as erect as once did the soldiers who now lie buried beneath them. Although the church is beautifully kept up, the graveyard is, perhaps inevitably, somewhat neglected. Behind the tombs loom the backs of billboards which proliferate everywhere in India.

We visited two other churches which bear witness to generations of Empire builders, St Mary's in Madras, where Clive of India was married, and St Francis in Cochin, the ancient and cosmopolitan southwestern port, where Vasco da Gama was once buried. The rows of memorials to doctors, engineers, judges, soldiers, their wives and children are a brief potted history of two remarkable centuries.

We had a glimpse of another chapter drawing to a dignified close in Cochin, when we visited the synagogue. The first Jews are said to have arrived in the port following the destruction of the second temple in Jerusalem in 70AD but their numbers are now down to 21, mostly elderly, the young having departed for Israel over the past couple of decades. The synagogue is an airy, peaceful place, with blue floor tiles from China and chandeliers from Belgium. When I asked one of the community's elders, Jacob Cohen, what would happen to the synagogue, he said: "When the last of us goes, I suppose they'll turn it into a museum."

ROBERT LOW

Correction: a photograph described last week as being of Brussels was, in fact, of Antwerp.

Fact file

☐ *Robert Low* was a guest of Cox & Kings (071-873 5000) which runs two southern India tours: "Splendours of the South" is a 15-day trip to Bombay, Bangalore, Mysore, Tiruchchirappalli and Madras. Prices start at £1,405 per person; "Southern Trader" is an 18-day trip to Bombay, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Mysore, Madras, Madurai, Cochin and Goa. Prices start at £2,095 per person. Both prices include flights to and from London.

☐ He stayed at the Taj Majal Hotel, Bombay; the Malabar, Cochin; Spice Village, Thekkady; *Taj Garden Retreat*, Madurai; Sangam, Tiruchchirappalli; and Connemara, Madras.

☐ The peak holiday season in southern India is October to March.

☐ Currency: £1 = 47 to 48 rupees, which can only be bought in India. Hotels change money more quickly than banks and give competitive rates. Take sterling or dollars, cash or traveller's cheques. Departure tax is 300 rupees.

☐ Southern India is particularly good for vegetarians, specialising in a wide variety of spicy vegetable curries.

☐ For more information contact the Indian Government Tourist Office, 7 Cork Street, London W1X 1PB (071-437 3677; 24-hour travel update 081-812 0929).



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Answers from page 29

PHILIA
(c) Amity, friendship, liking, from the Greek *philia friendship or love in one of its Venn diagram of meanings.*

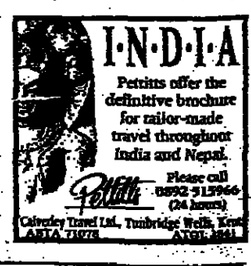
RAMBO
(a) A variety of eating or cooking apple which ripens late in autumn and has yellowish, red-streaked skin.

WORD-WATCHING

cf. rambure. "There was a teasing fragrance in the spiced vinegar for pickles, a reminder of winesap and rambo in the boiling cider."

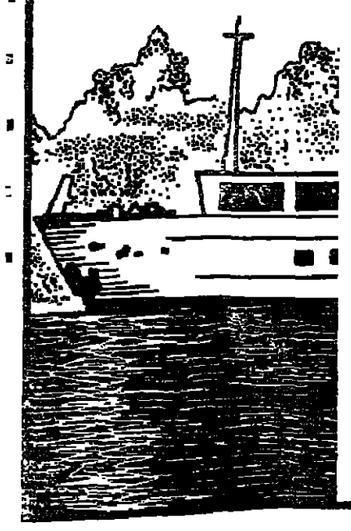
ROUGET
(c) The red mullet, from *rouge.* "He invited me to eat red mullet with him... Rougets en papillotes accompanied by fine old Graves."

ONNAGATA
(c) In Japanese Kabuki drama and related forms, a man who plays female roles. Also commonly called *oyama.* From the Japanese *onna* a woman + *kata* a figure. "A good onnagata must symbolise feminine qualities in a way that no actress can do."



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NEW YEAR'S EVE: What to do with the children while you let your hair down

Carefree partying for parents

Where do parents stow their children while they ring in the New Year? Do they opt for a child-friendly hotel in the countryside or go to a party nearer home? Either way, they will need to organise well in advance or, horror, take the children to the party. Worse, they might end up at home with only each other and the television set for company.

For families who want to take a break at a child-friendly hotel, early reservation is essential. Popular venues can be booked up more than a year ahead. "We already have reservations for 1995," says Heather Chapman, the joint owner with her husband, Nigel, of Woolley Grange at Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, which is much favoured by the four-wheel-drive set, and is already full for this year.

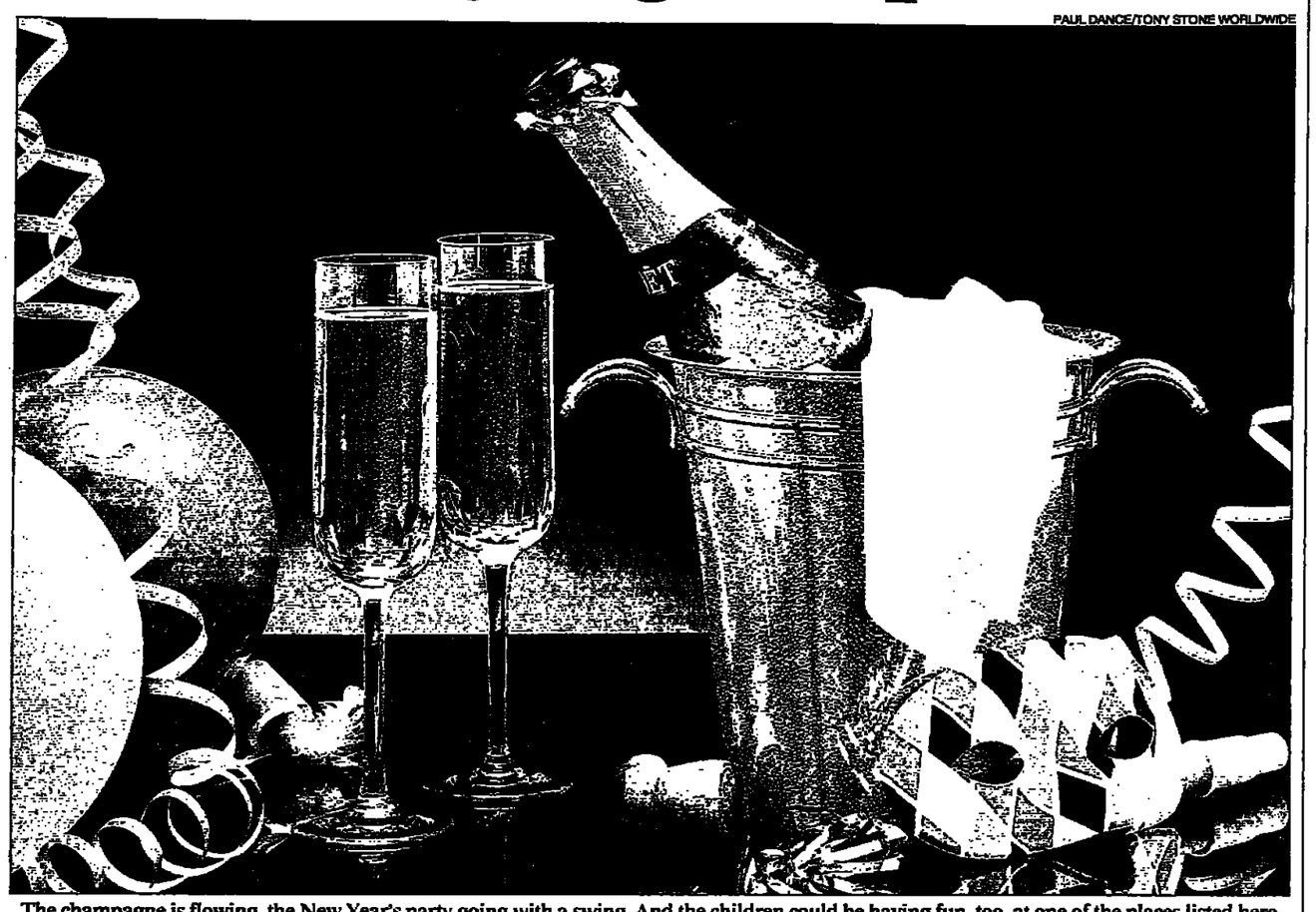
The thought of endless cooking and entertaining on party nights propels some desperate parents to to book even further in advance. Some hotels are already fully booked for the millennium parties, says Mark Scott, the manager of Stapleford Park, near Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

For weary parents who are still searching for a rural retreat for New Year, here are some hotels that still have vacancies. But you will need to book quickly.

Saunton Sands Hotel at Braunton, Devon is well-known for the lively entertainment it offers children. New Year's Eve is no exception. Children are invited to their own New Year's Eve tea party, with entertainment. A gala New Year's Eve dinner for the adults includes live entertainment, with an astrologer to forecast what 1995 has in store for guests.

Lucknam Park, is a luxurious retreat near Colerne in Wiltshire, with delightful grounds and a leisure spa. The emphasis is on sports — tennis and walks are popular — and the food is exquisite. The indoor pool is popular with children, and a useful feature is the restaurant in the health spa. This year, the theme of the New Year's Eve ball is Regency, and dress code is formal. Babysitting is available.

Another luxurious bolthole is Coombe House at Gittisham, Devon, an Elizabethan mansion on a 3,000-acre estate. Individually furnished rooms include antiques and paintings, some by the owner, Therese Theodas, a painter and sculptor. Most bedrooms have spectacular views. The hotel owns fishing rights on the River Otter and several race horses, which are trained nearby. A visit to the stables is popular among children. Despite the grand ambience of carved panelling and ancestral portraits, high-chairs, cots and a babysitting service are available.



PAUL DANCE/TONY STONE WORLDWIDE

The champagne is flowing, the New Year's party going with a swing. And the children could be having fun, too, at one of the places listed here

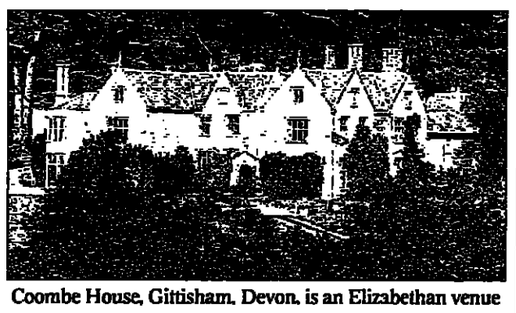
For a real Highland fling, Polmaily House Hotel at Drumnadrochit, Inverness-shire, looks south across the slopes of Glen Urquhart to Loch Ness. It is run by John and Sonia Whittington-Davis, who have four children aged two to 12. The hotel offers a two or three-day package, which includes a piper on New Year's Eve. Treasure hunts and pony rides are part of the fun and children can join in the pets' feeding times. Dogs are welcome at a small charge, with one meal a day included.

An unusual option for the choice of a New Year's Eve venue follows the Lloyd's insurance débâcle. Some of the hard-pressed Names have turned to letting their homes, offering B&B or running country-house parties.

One of the Nmes, Lena Proudlock, of Leigherton, Gloucestershire says: "I may have lost my manor house, but I haven't lost my flair." She is hiring out her new home, a beautiful Swedish-style farmhouse near Stroud, for a week at New Year. A housekeeper, chauffeur and babysitter can be provided, and you can enjoy fine food at local restaurants. For those whose bodies need post-Christmas pampering there is a beauty clinic nearby.



Overnight party guests celebrating at Pippa Pop-ins



Coombe House, Gittisham, Devon, is an Elizabethan venue

If you are invited to parties close to home, you may find that getting someone to babysit on New Year's Eve is as difficult as finding a taxi at 1am. And costly. Most agencies in London charge a registration fee of about £10 plus £7.50 an hour for the sitter. With the sitter's taxi home, the evening could cost you up to £80 — still cheaper than a hotel break.

Another idea is to pack the children off somewhere safe and comfortable for the night, leaving you to suffer your hangover next morning in peace. Two places offering this service are Pippa Pop-ins in Fulham, London, and the Norland Children's Hotel (part of the Norland nannies college) in Berkshire.

Pippa Pop-ins holds a New Year's Eve party for the children, which includes an 8pm "midnight" feast, magic bubble baths, and games under the supervision of trained nannies. Children are welcome from 4.30pm until 11am the next morning. The cost is £65 per child.

The Norland Children's Hotel provides a warm haven for even the youngest babies, with a one-to-one nanny ratio. The overnight charge on New Year's Eve is £48.50.

One of the cheapest solutions — particularly if your guests chip in — is to hold your party at home but bring in someone to look after the children. Brilliant Babysitters, of Campden Grove, west London, runs such a service. Jean Birtles, a former teacher, provides competent young women who will entertain the children upstairs while you party downstairs. The minders bring a selection of games, colouring books and face paints, and organise games. This costs about £85.

Nothing comes cheap on New Year's Eve but, even so, you need to act now.

MARGARET ST JOHN

Places and prices

HOTELS

☐ **The Saunton Sands Hotel, Braunton, Devon EX33 1LQ (0271 890212, fax 0271 890145).**
Minimum three-night stay. From £85 per person per day for dinner and B&B to £131.

☐ **Lucknam Park, Colerne, Wiltshire (0225 742777).**
Deluxe double room and breakfast £200-£450. Children sharing rooms £20 per bed, £10 per cot. New Year's Eve ball £145 pp.

☐ **Coombe House, Gittisham, Devon (0404 42756, fax 0404 46004).**
Minimum two-night stay. From £97 per room, including full English breakfast. New Year's Eve dinner £47 per person.

☐ **Lena Proudlock, Drew's House, Leighterton, Gloucestershire GL8 8UN (0666 890230).**
House, sleeping ten, to rent for New Year week at £800.

☐ **The Polmaily House Hotel, Drumnadrochit, Inverness-shire IV3 6XT (0456 450343).**
New Year's Eve package £95 per day, full board. Reductions for children according to age.

BABYSITTING

☐ **Pippa Pop-ins, 430 Fulham Road, London SW6 (071-385 2458).**
£65 per child from 4.30pm-11am.

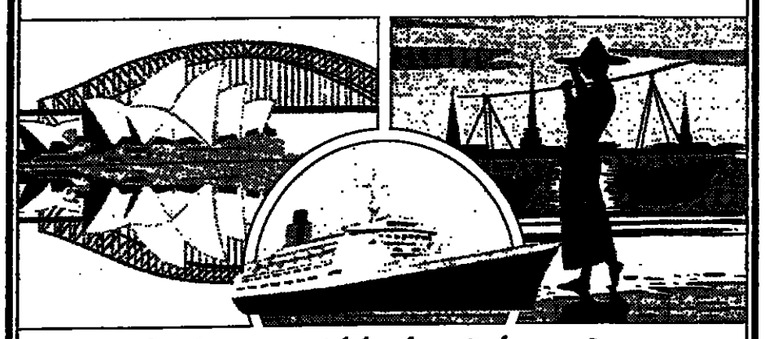
☐ **Norland Children's Hotel, Norland College, Deanford Park, Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 0PQ (0488 682252).**
£48.50 for New Year's Eve.

☐ **Scallywags, 10 Cheryls Close, London SW6 (071-736 9906).**
Registration fee £10. From 6.30pm £7.50 per hour, from midnight £8.50 per hour plus sitter's taxi.

☐ **Brilliant Babysitters, Lower Office, 22a Campden Grove, London W8 (071-938 2006).**
New Year package £85.

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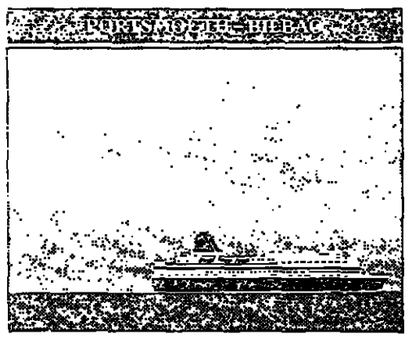
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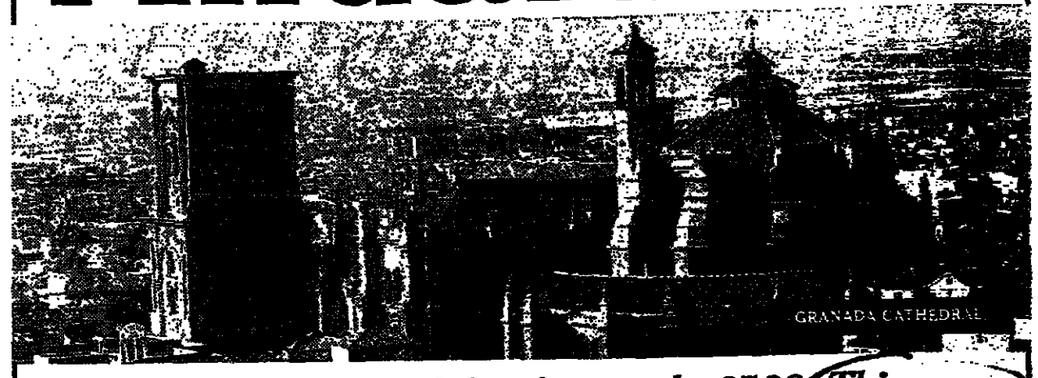
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THE TIMES

JANNEAU ARMAGNAC COMPETITION

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Janneau Armagnac, The Sunday Times and The Times are offering readers the chance to discover the real France that is reflected in the qualities of Janneau Armagnac. The prize in this exclusive competition is a holiday cottage in Brittany. Situated in the hamlet of La Gare-de-Broons in northern Brittany, the cottage is just 20 minutes from the beach and 40 minutes from the Channel port of St Malo.

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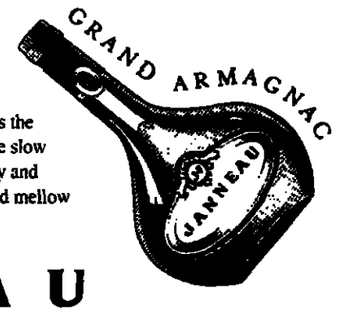
The real flavour of France: Janneau and Doisneau

The late Robert Doisneau captured, perhaps better than any other photographer, the real flavour of France. Until his death earlier this year, his work brought out the authentic, often convivial, feel of French life unknown to the outside world.

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2) Who wrote A Year in Provence?
3) In which region of France is Armagnac?
4) What was the name of the Fourth Musketeer?

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WARM important friendship attractive Chinese single female seeks educated good looking affluent penfriend from aged of 40, caring, affectionate, loving, happy and peaceful. Seeks harmony and communication Preferably single, awaiting your kind hearted letter. Write to Miss Caroline Po Box 2472 Mount Isa. QLD. 4825 Australia.

LADIES

ADMIRALS daughter slim blonde solvent 56 writer seeks London man in the arts or travel. Photo plse Box 1851

A genuine attractive slim, loving West-country scribe with charisma seeks strong, tender, well-built but trim, passionate, 6'ish, 50ish, unfettered n/s, male grad. of integrity/means. Mutual pool of wisdom, optimism, compassion, trust, sensuality, humour, & healthy measure of unselfishness ess. Photo/ALA promptly.Box 2307

A greying Sussex frump late 40's overweight no personality short legs and dentures seeks tall positive assertive gentleman with similar sense of humour, high self-esteem and appreciation of antiques, arts and countryside. Initial conversation promises to be enlightening! Please Reply to Box No 2356

LADIES

A man who can remain April? (AYLI, iv, i). Attractive lady, dreamer, 51 and not yet grown up, loves good theatre and films with passion, requires optimistic well-spoken well-educated well-built lasting soulmate 51-60. Leics Box No 2185

ANY gorgeous, professional, extrovert, intelligent, fit, witty, solvent, educated 30-40yr old out there who can make conversation? And deal with this gorgeous 36yr old, 5'4", long-haired/blue-eyed, slim, fit, sporty, articulate, feminine but gutsy business woman? I am a chameleon! Business suited or levis and cow-boy boots, I have energy, diverse interests and a love of life. London based. Challenge me. Photo essential. Please Reply to Box No 2216

ARE you the distinguished escort for this Lady of the Lakes? She is tired of loneliness (amidst the throng) seeks a suitable partner 60's-70's for her inimitable style. Town or country. Here or abroad.Reply Box No 2359

ARE you in Gloucestershire, born 1940s n/s attractive, slim, interested in arts & country life? I am. Please Reply Box No 1918

ATTRACTIVE, long dark hair, slim, intelligent, affectionate 38 year old (looks 25) professional seeks long term caring, fun relationship with financially secure 38-45 year old, with whom she can enjoy everything life has to offer. Enjoys eating out, cinema, theatre, socialising and travelling. London. Photo please Reply to Box No 2120

ATTRACTIVE London woman, 42, 5'7", likes cinema, classical music, opera, literature, Germany, travel, seeks n/s intellectual man under 50, pref music-loving, with SOH for friendship & romance. Photo appreciated. London area only. Please Reply to Box No 2082

ATTRACTIVE Extrovert n/s SOH enjoys the outdoor life & the good things in life. Good food & wine, - also some of the naughty things too!! Domiciled N.W England 5'8" early 50's please reply with photo if possible to Box No 1938

AUDI 16V VGC garaged in Herts. Vivacious and caring owner seeks 4-wheel drive type (45-60) n/s in good trim with great sense of humour to explore life's highways and country lanes. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 2037

CAT LADY - unique slim attractive London-based. Own business Seeks unconventional man in Levis (35-45) who can meet the challenge. Box 2296

CENTRAL/South England. Tall, slim, stylish blond female with grown up family, lovely home & interesting job would like to meet presentable gentleman 45-55 years to enjoy social functions travel, racing and Christmas! Please enclose photo - to be returned Box No 2130

CHRISTMAS alone? Come skiing with lively group of single professionals. Send S.A.E. to Box No 2227

CLEVER, cultured, pretty, vivacious, blue-eyed American lady, 45, VGSOH, WLTM active, fit partner. London area.Photo app.Reply Box 2281

COUNTRY loving prof 40's slim attrac. caring practical loves horses+ skiing wining/dining. WLTM n/s solvent similar gent. GSOH. Dorset Box No 2324

E.MIDLANDS. Professional gent, 45, seeks intelligent, successful lady, (30-40) for friendship/romance. Please Reply to Box No 2352

ELEGANT slim outgoing well travelled sophisticated 41yr old brunette seeks like minded prof. sociable fun kind to compliment her life. London.Reply with photo to Box No 2279

ENIGMATIC female beauty 39 long hair. Media Res. WLTM very special Knight maybe pilot or business man. Anywhere. Surrey. Box No 2214

EXCEPTIONAL. Slim, attractive professional lady divorced, 54 n/s with GSOH Jewish non-practising. London based. Seeks EXCEPTIONAL, well-educated gentleman under 65 for fun, travel and lasting relationship. Phone no and recent photo please to Box No 2045

EXTREMELY attractive slim kindly and reserved well educated unattached English young 50's lady. An animal lover seeking similar natured genuine gentleman for sincere long-term caring friendship. Home counties.Reply to Box No 2277

FEMININE blue-eyed tall slim widow 50 n/s Jewish warm loving and solvent London based but no ties appreciates the good things in life incl. theatre travel wining dining cooking & bridge. Seeks similar male to enjoy travel (in the near future) friendship & possibly more. Please Reply to Box No 2141

FEMININE, attractive, slim, normal, happy, romantic female mid 40's. Seeks reasonable looking, well-groomed male who's slimmish, fittish, civilised, sincere, talkative and witty! To share conversation, country walks, theatre, eating out, etc. West Midlands. Photo appreciated. Box No 2342

GLAMOROUS blue-eyed blonde, tall and slim, 50. Pretty, feminine and natural, graceful, cultured, relaxed. Wide interests. South. Seeks old-fashioned romance, courtship, fairy tale ending with n/s, kind, tall (6ft), well-educated, well-adjusted, well-built, well-disposed, outdoor type sailing man with zest for life! Early-mid 60s. Photo please Reply to Box No 2236

INTELLIGENT, slim, N/S lady 64 - seeks gentleman for companionship, friendship. Suffolk area. Reply to Box No 2289

HE who dares wins? Attractive, long dark haired (35) mediterranean company executive, tempestuous and fiery needs a man to tame this tigress. You must be single professional, 35-50, tall, healthy and wealthy, strong in character, tender and understanding with a GSOH. Please Reply to Box No 2331

INTERESTING, independent widow (60's era) graduate 5'7", slim, considered attractive and good company. Great family, friends and enjoyed a happy marriage, but missing companionship for varied interests incl. opera, jazz, tennis, watching rugby. London /Surrey based. Sceptical about advertising but hopeful that tall, solvent, sociable, n/s, educated man with integrity and no hangups will risk a reply. Letter and photo please Box No 2229

IS there a warm intelligent cultured man 50's-60's who wakes up most mornings feeling it is good to be alive? Who believes this is not a dress rehearsal for life but the middle of a successful but limited run! I am a slim stylish redhead 50. Equally at home in blue jeans or Chanel suit. Enjoys entertaining for friends and family. Ints incl. theatre the arts travel and country pursuits. Would like a caring joyful spontaneous romantic relationship. Photo appreciated. Box No 2318

I wanna meet (or two!). If you're 40+, live in Dorset/Somerset, why not join our Dining Club? More from Box No 1913

KATHARINE ALLEN. "The highly respected marriage bureaux" (The Independent). 18 Thayer St, London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

LONDON/Home counties. A warm sensitive, kind-hearted, softly spoken lady, 40ish, likes romantic dinners, good food and wine, interesting company, skiing, country weekends and some tennis. You are over 45, n/s, kind, independent, who needs love and romance to make life worth living. Post early for Xmas with your photo. Reply to Box No 2305

MAN wanted by devastatingly beautiful well-spoken well-educated bored black female nearly 30. You will pamper me spoil me adore me and guess what I'll do for you! Reply Box No 2319

MEET attractive, sexy women at London singles' parties. MEET 'N' EAT. 071 629 8534.

MIDLANDS based professional gentleman to join several likeminded ladies for a pre-Christmas party evening and wining and dining at various venues during 1995.Box No 2284

N.WEST Attractive slim vivacious intelligent young 40's yearns for stimulating sincere He-man for City/country pleasures. Photo app. Box 2243

PETRUCCHIO where are you? Caring independent late 40's woman, with multiple interests, seeks genuine man ready for commitment. Must have sense of humour, intelligence & love of life. Location, looks unimportant. All genuine responses to Katel.Reply to Box No 2261

PROFESSIONAL LADY 36, attractive, slim, 5'11", sincere and feminine, with various interests, looks for professional gentleman, up to 45, who skillfully combines practicality with intelligence and emotional maturity for a long lasting relationship. London area. Please Reply to Box No 2311

SINGLE lady 41 professional, lives Surrey/London, practising Catholic seeks single Christian man youthful, practical, joyful who also dreams of true love and happy home. Box No 2168

RUSSIAN lady very attractive highly educated young looking 60's fluent English permanent job in U.K (30 miles west of London) wants to meet mature educated sensitive man for friendship possibly permanent relationship. Photo appreciated & exch.Please Reply Box 2038

PROTECTIVE, caring man sought by slightly zany woman, 49, graduate. Interests ideas/people, for laughter, love, commitment. Living Kent, would re-locate. Please Reply to Box No 2084

SINGLE IN HERTS? Your local ABIA Agency is Solo Plus One Est. 4yrs 0992 501736

SLIM attractive female designer, young 43, intelligent, stylish, world-travelled, solvent, seeks attractive, successful, cultured, unattached N/S male 40-52. Share City culture, theatre, dining, travel, good lifestyle, romance. London/SE. Photo essential - Box No 2160

SLIM, attractive, intelligent, 40's loves home and social life, country pursuits, arts and opera. Amusing, educated, feminine and elegant. Seeks friendship with country based gentleman who would appreciate these qualities.Box No 2345

SLIM attractive 38yr old graduate lives in Surrey seeks warm intelligent unattached man. Photo app.Reply Box No 2287

SOLO Cheshire woman, fit, relaxed, active, WLTM man (50's-60's) to share love of life, travel, books, gardens, theatre, a giggle, the Lakes, food wine and such (and the expenses thereof).Reply to Box No 2240

STRONG, kind, imaginative, beautifully functioning brain, at ease with animals, that's you: Me: Warbaby, still looks okay apparently, bookaholic, loves the ordinary, extraordinary, family life, changing seasons, jazz, opera, theatre, craziness, logic Reply to Box No 1788

SURREY-based slim elegant 5'8" very attractive sensual sophisticated romantic N/S lady 50. Wishing to meet tall handsome N/S man who takes pride in his appearance 50-60 financially secure and must have GSOH. Recent photo please reply to Box No 2265

SURREY INTRODUCTIONS. Orders now being taken for Xmas. Call Santa on 0483 767888 A.B.I.A Member

VIVACIOUS feminine intelligent and attractive lady 50ish seeks a mature well-educated gentleman for tender times, magic moments and to share life's adventures with. Sussex based. Please Reply to Box No 2292

W. KENT widow prof. WLTM special gentleman friend 47+.Ints the arts, countryside, family.Photo please.Box 2286

WANTED: Thinking woman's thinking man by seriously attractive and brainy lady: fair hair, blue eyes, slim but shapely, conv. prot/grad. (47). You'd be 50ish and successful, tall, free and brave, 100% male: share intelligence, honesty, warmth and romance: enjoy log fires, country pubs, quiet wildness. Love, life, soulmate. Photo app. Home counties. Please Reply to Box No 2226

WELL-EDUCATED lady 43 living in Suffolk WLTM gentleman for friendship/romance? Please Reply to Box No 2223

WILLING to regret never meeting me? Single girl early 30's North Worcs. Articulate slim bright and pretty. Requires male hero willing to loan his favorite sweater in return for friendship, romance, adventures and laughter. Flowers, letter and photograph appreciated to Box No 2343

WOKING, Surrey. Vivacious Leo lioness, her claws are long, but purrs when pampered and spoilt, very young looking 50, slim with poise and grace, you 40-60 fit professional, protective solvent well dressed N/S for w/ends away, laughing, loving, romance, serious relationship, recent photo and phone No Reply to Box No 2171

XMAS comes but once a year. My wish to Santa for this year a husband, lover, best friend, good companion n/s 30-45 and Daddy to my 3yr old daughter all in one person. Wanted by female 30's who is longing for someone to share life with and fed up with being on her own! Serious replies only please + photo to Box No 2215

GENTLEMEN

ABASHED but articulate male, recently single, young 47, 5'11", slim, based London with house in country - lover of arts, classics, countryside, tennis, seeking n/s, trim, elegant lady approx 34-42 with complementary interests. If your hesitation recognises my trepidation, please reply to Box No 2183

ACHIEVE all you hope for! Handsome, much travelled Lec. Tall, fair, slim, prof. man. Solvent n/s. Positive thinker GSOH. Very active 54, feels 34. Luxury home Yorkshire. Prepared travel, move, wherever. Seeking slim, attractive lady. n/s. No children preferably. Appx. 30-45, possible jazz lover with GSOH. Essential photo. Please Reply to Box No 2301

A continental businessman London based seeks intelligent female companion. Box 2132

A former expat. Single professional engineer (43) with GSOH WLTM slim attractive woman (25-40) to share fun and enjoy life together. Based 50 miles West of London, can travel. Cultured with major interest sailing (cruising and racing own yacht) plus skiing, opera, theatre, & walking. Please reply with recent photo Box No 2173

AMERICAN Accountant, 48, in London for January. Seeks lady companion for museums, lunch, etc. Reply Box No 2046

A miraculous growth agent has restored 10 inches to the 5'11" stature of the Surrey gooseberry who advertised last week. Is ripening nicely (57) but at risk of mouldering in his Surrey orchard. Whether a strawberry (blonde) or prunette (ouch!), let me cherry pick you to be the apple of my eye, or passion fruit maybe?, so to make our salad days in this season of mellow fruitfulness. All fig leaves (and photos) returned if requested. Please Reply to Box No 2089

A tall successful dominant man 50 living & working in London and Mediterranean seeks very attractive lady to share exciting lifestyle. Passport ess. Photo & phone no please to Box 2308

ATTRACTIVE solvent Asian 28 professional enjoys travel, wining & dining, seeks tall lady 25-35, n/s, sincere, GSOH, for fun/friendship. London based. Please Reply to Box No 2218

CANDIDLY - alone and lonely. Surrey based architect /businessman, 56, desperate for company of lady in 30's or 40's. Please write to Box No 2035

FABULOUS in sweater, jeans and baseball cap 40-50 years young? Sincere solvent 50's dad n/s country lover & sports person WLTM you to share companionship, romance, fun & TLC. East Sussex. Photo please to Box No 2220

GENTLEMEN

CHRISTMAS alone? Come skiing with lively group of single professionals. Send S.A.E. to Box No 2227

CITY professional seeking challenging companion. I am 59 based in London NW1. Solvent. Leading a lively life-style, sports socialising holidays. Enjoying all the usual vices incl cigars, alcohol (in moderation)! I think I have a thoughtful caring nature. Are you 40-50ish, under 5ft 7ins attractive + well dressed with a loving nature? Drop me a line with a photo (will be returned). Box No 1834

COUNTRY-LIVING professional chap, 39, single and no ties, often abroad due to work. WLTM intelligent, serious and independent young lady, preferably under, up to 35 who is active and sporty yet stylish, for friendship and possibly more. I know you are out there somewhere! Photo app. Southern U.K. preferred. Please Reply to Box No 2259

DID you read last Sundays 20th November Christa de Souza article in S. Times Style magazine? Do you believe in its revelations as I do? If you qualify then read on. Are you considerate, affectionate, sincere, with widely varied interests, intelligent, independent, flexible, understanding, and a happy soul up to 49 years. International cosmopolitan businessman, I travel often extensively. In return I will offer to share my precious regular intervals of free time. Wise interpretation of this will show my personality. Our First encounter should reveal our compatibility.Reply Box No 2270

DORSET/HANTS widower, 51, 6ft 1in, slim, n/s, romantic, loyal, sincere, solvent engineer. WLTM slim, attractive lady 40's, to share music, theatre, walks, sailing, holidays, dining in/out, family & life in lasting, loving relationship. May relocate. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 2321

ENGLISHMAN, house in France, flat in London, seeks n/s French-speaking English-woman (or vice-versa), 50-60, interested in playing tennis, downhill skiing, opera, good food & fine wine.Box No 2304

GOOD-LOOKING, good-natured, sociable, professional man 40 divorced, based Central London interested in languages, travel and the Arts generally seeks slim, attractive French, German, Italian or Spanish-speaking lady under 36 for genuine caring relationship. Please write with photo to Box 2291

GOOD-LOOKING successful stylish London businessman early 30's looking for Miss Santa-Claus to fill empty pair of silk stockings under the tree. Looks important, legs essential! Photo ensures reply and Xmas present.Reply to Box No 2260

HELP? Man needs pampering by someone kind and generous in return I can offer the usual country walks etc. I am a 40yr old slightly rumpled Calvin Klein lookalike, seeking a 28-40yr old woman. Oxfordshire based.Reply to Box No 2250

LIFE IN THE SUN. Owner of luxury charter yacht, young 50, slim, n/s, GSOH, seeks lady companion (25-45) to share life, work and travels in Mediterranean. Photo and details please Please Reply to Box No 2207

HAMPSHIRE gentleman successful most attractive highly presentable (formal preferred) widowed. Of comfortable independent means. Good physique 5'8" n/s VGSOH 52 enjoys the finer and simpler aspects of life. WLTM feminine groomed slim attractive fun-loving stylish lady 30's-40's. Photo returned.Reply Box No 2310

I have a dream....Me, 57 divorced 5'11¼" blonde/balding athletic. finds paradise with adventurous, artistic attractive, energetic, Christian damsel in full life and business partnership (all costs 50/50) developing together an acre of land and farmhouse in the Algarve. Reply, Por Favor. Box No 2164

IRISH professional gentleman living in North Lincolnshire. N/S, generous, fun loving, great sense of humour, enjoys music, dancing, eating out, travel and country life, wishes to meet like minded elegant, petite lady of 45 to 55 with similar interests for a loving lasting relationship. Plse reply with photo Box 2327

LONDON man 45 boyish seeks older woman 50-69. Reply Box No 1973 ALA

MILLIONAIRE. Lovely man. Great physique. Country home. Wife walked out. Now's your Chance. Better than THE LOTTERY.Reply Box No 2244

PROFESSIONAL tall, slim mid 40's, separated (not absolutely!) Usual wide interests and entertaining my kids of course. I'm straight forward, kind and amusing, looking for these qualities in one attractive lady 35-46ish and a relationship, simple enough! Oxon based but mobile. Photo app.Reply Box No 2306

RETIRED army officer world travelled widower young 53 slim very fit n/s 5'9" Scottish country house/London flat financially secure seeks attractive affectionate lady 35 upwards any race for lasting romantic relationship. Photo please Reply to Box No 2146

ROMANTIC tall, well built, brown eyes, gent. enjoys travel, entertaining, home life, cuddles and more, seeks his special long haired lady for romance, fun and love. So why not let your lovely long hair down and drop me a line. Distance no problem. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2231

SCOTTISH businessman WLTM sincere attractive romantic lady 40-60 to share the joys of life. Must have GSOH. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 2336

SEMI-Detached graduate businessman/writer, 47, 6ft, very good looking, n/s, ultra intelligent, creative, articulate, passionate, craves beautiful intellectual lady, 35-45, as friend and soulmate for happy days and nights discreetly exploring new horizons. Central London. Box No 2294

TOO good to be true. recently unattached successful businessman, 40's, seeks very slim, stylish, discerning, sensual lady 25-40. London and SE. Photo please. Reply to Box No 2322

SEXY, leggy, gorgeous, 22-35 yr old sought by successful 39 yr old entrepreneur. Romantic friendship and passion offered by attractive, kind and generous Capricorn. Box No 2184

SINGLE man over 5'9" preferred by 39 yr old n/s Co. Director. I am honest, loving, generous and kind with GSOH but I don't pretend to be perfect. If you need some TLC and fancy romantic dinners, theatre, cinema, long walks along the beach, stimulating conversation, cuddles, passion and quiet nights in please reply. Any area to Box No 2182

SINGLE, professional, attractive, N/S, honest, caring male. 5'9", 32 fit and sporty, very solvent, enjoys skiing, walking and countryside. Seeks similar attractive, caring, affectionate single female, N/S, 22-32 for lasting relationship, including marriage and family. South East. Photo please. Box 2167

SPRACHLEHRER, 35, sucht Dame bis 75 die sich für Kunst und Literatur wirklich interessiert. Zwecks Gespräche sowie Museumsbesuche, kennenzulernen. Alter und Aussehen sind Nebensache Reply to Box No 2148

THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE. Cultured professional man caring, loyal and sincere, n/s, GSOH, seeks attractive, loving lady (45-55) of similar disposition interested in classical music, decorative and fine arts, travel, good food, wine and company etc. Surrey/London/S.E. pref. Photo/tel no to Box No 2304

WEST MIDLANDS professional man, 52, n/s, widowed with grown up family, seeks intelligent, educated, well-spoken, independent and attractive woman with no ties, initially as social partner and holiday /leisure companion. Please Reply to Box No 2219

WOULD like to correspond with petite female aged 30-40's that likes rural small town living, country music and dancing, social drink, modest smoking considered. Live in Upper mid west USA with life time partner potential. Photo please. Phone 606-258-2504.

GAY German Romantic, 40y, handsome Eurocrat in Munich, sks similarly inclined bell. gent, trav. etc. Free, to MUC on business (a pleasure). Ideal: Nonsmok., y hirsute, active Executive w. strong intell. personality to compliment mine Age 21-50. Photo + details Please Reply to Box No 2348

Dear Father Christmas
I'm looking for an elegant lady for an elegant resort. Christmas could be so special and fun, if I could have the following qualities included in my Christmas list:-
1. Companionship
2. Sense of humour
3. Green fingers
4. Fond of animals
5. A fine hostess
and, above all
6. A love of the finer things in life.
If you know of a lady who would fit the stocking, please ask her to send a photo and letter to Box No 2228

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THEATRE LISTINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGES 4 & 5

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COTTESLOE Today 12.45 LANDSCAPE Harold Pinter. Today 2.30 & 7.30 (LAST PERF) RUTHERFORD & SON Githa Sowerby. Mon 7.30 ALICE'S ADVENTURES UNDER-GROUND adapted from Lewis Carroll by Christopher Hampton in collaboration with Martha Clarke.

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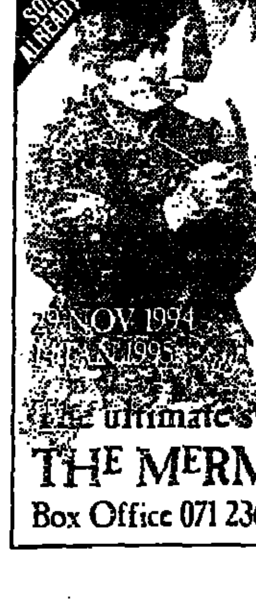
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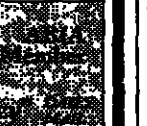
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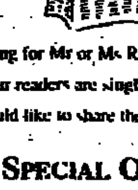
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by Raymond Keene

TIPS FOR CHRISTMAS

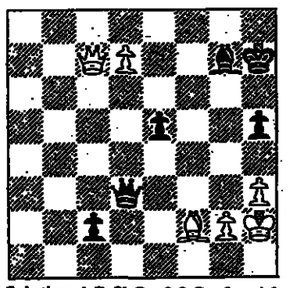
Queen's Side is the best magazine I have come across devoted entirely to the achievements of female players. Recent issues include articles on reasons for using chess clocks and for writing down the moves, and a profile of the first women's world chess champion, Vera Menchik. Copies can be obtained from: Bruce Birchall, 26D Colville Square, London W11 2BQ.

Games and Puzzles magazine, edited by Paul Lamford, runs a regular chess column written by grandmaster David Norwood. If you are fascinated by all games, chess included, then this is the magazine for you. Copies can be obtained from 321 Essex Road, London N1 3PS (071-226 4496).

ENDGAMES with passed pawns on both sides on the verge of becoming new queens are always very tricky.

The game between Yusupov and Adams, Dortmund 1994, which I published on September 6 was typical and aroused considerable interest from readers. This position is from the game. Here, White found a clever tactic to end the game in his favour. What did he play?

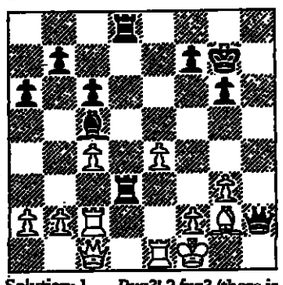
Yusupov-Adams, Dortmund 1994.



Solution: 1 Be3! Qxe3 2 Qxc2+ e4 3 d8Q winning on material.

Brian Whitehouse of the West Midlands suggests that after 3... Be5+ 4 g3 Qxg3+ Black can cause trouble with a long sequence of checks, and that 3 Qc7 (preventing ...Be5+) bypasses this problem. This is a good point. In fact, White could escape the checks (after several moves) in the former variation, but Mr Whitehouse's alternative solution is quicker.

The next position is from the game Espinosa-Garcia, Linares 1993, and was published as a Winning Move on August 5. The black pieces have invaded the white position and it is not surprising that Black can now quickly decide the game in his favour. How?



Solution: 1... Rxg3! 2 fxg3 (there is nothing better) 2... Qg1+ 3 Ke2 Qxg2 mate.

R. Morris of Sheffield suggests 2 Rd2 Qxg2+ 3 Ke2, and E. Webster of Ormskirk suggests 2 Qf4 Qxg2+ 3 Ke2 as avoiding immediate mate for White. However, both suggestions leave Black a piece ahead, which at a high level constitutes a hopeless cause for White.

R. Wallace of Essex, and others, have requested a re-run of the moves of the Waqar-Freeman game published on October 8.

White: M. Waqar
Black: Arthur Freeman
Lloyds Bank, 1994

1 e4	d5	2 exd5	Nf6
3 d4	Nxd5	4 c4	Nb6
5 Nc3	g6	6 Be3	Bg7
7 Qd2	Nc6	8 0-0-0	0-0
9 h4	h5	10 f3	e5
11 d5	Nd4	12 g4	c6!
13 gxh5	cxd5	14 Qg2	Nxc4
15 Bxc4	dxc4	16 hxg6	Bf5
17 h5	Qa5	18 Rxd4	exd4
19 h6	dxc3	20 hxg7	cxb2+
21 Kxb2	Qb4+	22 Kc1	Qb1+
23 Kd2	Qc2+	24 Ke1	Qxg2

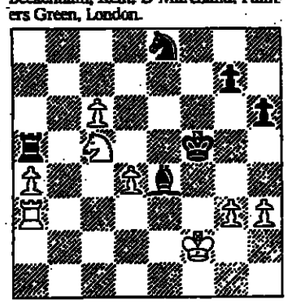
White resigns.

By Raymond Keene

As the festive season approaches, I will be celebrating with a series of positions by Alexander Alekhine, one of the most fiery and inspirational of world champions. This position is from the game Alekhine-Tartakower, San Remo, 1930. White is a piece down and, although he can recapture it with 1 Nxe4 Kxe4 2 Re3+, this would lead to an unfavourable endgame. Can he do better?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Qh5+
Last week's winners were: R Bales, Chingford, London; B M Robertson, Beckenham, Kent; D Marchand, Palmers Green, London.



PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon caption 33, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, November 30.



Burglar (about to decamp with actress's diamonds).
"DON'T RING, LADY. JUST THINK OF THE ADVERTISEMENT I'M GIVING YOU."



"So you want to include a saucepan in your coat of arms."

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (printed above) was submitted by Dr A. Griffiths, of Abergavenny, Gwent

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PHILIA
a. A swamp moss
b. A Spartan mess
c. Love

RAMBO
a. A yellowish apple
b. A violent charge
c. A yearling tup

ROUGET
a. A superficial wound
b. Heraldic pink
c. The red mullet

ONNAGATA
a. A Japanese script
b. An honour culture
c. A transvestite actor

Answers on page 24

COMPUTER GAMES

HAVING announced the winners of Cyberspace Ten, I thought two close runners-up were worthy of a mention for the comical content of their entries. Peter Watson of Lee, southeast London, entered a run-your-own-restaurant game, called "Ah Bistro".

The objective is to maximise profit, reputation and market share by creating individual dishes or even entire menus. So much for his intro, now for the entrée. "Ah Bistro is the first game to take full advantage of the new 'smell board' available in early 1995," drools Mr Watson, adding that the smell of *culinary disasters will "attract local* authority rat catchers from miles around."

Cooking up success in your eatery will require plenty of cunning and several trade tricks, such as unpriced menus and unfairly adding to the bills of parties of drunks. "There are bonus points to be gained for anyone who can get away with adding 500 per cent or more to the price of a bottle of wine, as well as spotting and looking after the man from Egon Ronay," he added. But the best part of the game Mr Watson saved until last. "More points can be gained by identifying and ejecting Michael Winner. Maximum points can be won by letting Mr Winner in and then poisoning him with the Moules Marinière." What a delicious thought.

As I mentioned before, many of you entered ideas for games based on British politics. "Virtual Government" was entered by Alan Stillwell of Hayes, Middlesex. He wrote: "Having endured the real thing for over a decade, I feel the world is now ready for my game in which the player places himself at the head of one of the major parties and tries to make sense of it all, no *instructions being provided.*

"What makes this game different is the ability to draw the characters from other games which the player may have on their hard disc. Guybrush Threepwood, hero of the 'Monkey Island' series, would make an ideal leader. Most of the party could be found among the pirates and undesirables in the game and any empty posts could be filled from 'Innocent Until Caught'. The Chancellor of the Exchequer could be taken from any game as long as it was unoriginal, taxing and did not allow you to save. The NHS could be put under the care of 'The Terminator'. The population of the Civil Service would be greatly facilitated by obtaining a copy of 'KGB', while 'Populous' or 'Lemmings' would provide the electorate.

"The situations from other games could be incorporated. In this way your Minister of Transport could dabble in 'A Train', buying and selling properties and rail stock until that was all that remained: a train.

"Should this format prove popular, other modules could be added later. 'Virtual Union' could draw heavily on 'Civilisation', but with *the object of impending technological* advances. However, it is felt that anyone contemplating 'Virtual Monarchy' should first ensure that they have access to one of those dodgy soft-porn bulletin boards because this game is no fun without the younger members of the royal family."

Next week we will announce details of Cyberspace Eleven. Meanwhile, please keep all your news and views coming to us at Computer Games, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. You can also fax us on 071-729 6791.

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

EVERY year the four home bridge unions — England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland — compete for the Camrose Trophy, sponsored by Macallan whisky. The first matches this year will be played on December 3 and 4, with England taking on Wales at the Royal Clarence Hotel, Exeter. The English team is Tony Forrester-Andrew Robson, Glyn Liggins-Andrew Dyson, and Neil Rosen-Phil King, with Gerard Faulkner as non-playing captain. The Welsh team is Patrick Jourdain-Tony Ratcliff, Adrian Thomas-Alan Pierce, and John Glubb-Akram Zaman. Scotland take on Northern Ireland at the Hunting Tower Hotel in Perth. England, as usual, are favourites to win the trophy but all the matches are keenly fought.

This deal comes from a previous match between Scotland and Northern Ireland:

Dealer North North-South vul.

	♠KQJ1073 ♥Q9 ♦A5 ♣A53	
♠A986 ♥K83 ♦9843 ♣Q2	N W E S	♠542 ♥AJ42 ♦K1076 ♣98
	♠— ♥10765 ♦QJ2 ♣KJ10764	

W	N	E	S
—	1♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
All Pass			

Opening lead: ♦9

The early play was the same at both tables. West led the nine of diamonds to East's king and East switched to the nine of clubs to the jack, queen and ace. The king of spades was played from the dummy. The Scottish West ducked for a round so that his partner could play sweet music on the spade pips to indicate his switch. The tune was "Auld Lang Syne" — the declarer went back to the minor suits and cashed two diamond tricks and five more club tricks to make his contract.

Sitting West for Northern Ireland was one of their most seasoned campaigners and a great personality in the bridge world, Monty Rosenberg. He gave the matter some thought and worked *out that the declarer was threatening* to take nine tricks: five spades, two diamonds (remember, East won the first trick with the king of diamonds, marking South with the queen) and two clubs (West could tell from East's play of the nine of clubs that South had the king, though he did not know his club length).

Hence the defence had to take three heart tricks now, so Rosenberg took the first spade and played the king of hearts — the correct card, as it gave his partner no chance to go wrong. That put the contract one down.

JANE PRIDAY

JANE Priday died in October, aged 58, after a short illness. As Terence Reese put it, she was as clever as she was beautiful. Playing with Dorothy Shanahan, she won the European Women's Team Championship in 1961 and 1963, and the Olympiad team title in 1964. With Joan Durran, she won the Olympiad Women's Pairs and European Women's Team Championship titles in 1966. Jane and her husband, Tony, were the only married couple to have represented England, winning against Scotland on two occasions.

In most of her international team successes her team-mates were Rixi Markus and Fritzi Gordon; yet as a player, Jane's style was at the opposite end of the spectrum to those formidable Austrians. They were supreme in the Ladies' game, dominating the table and hustling their opponents into making errors, but their style was not so effective in Open bridge. Jane got her results by playing a high-class, technically-correct game. As a result she could hold her own in any company — for example, she and Joan Durran were second in the Masters Pairs in 1966, the highest-ever placing by a women's pair.

My favourite memory of domestic bridge is the 1972 Gold Cup. In those days I was an ageing young hopeful: Tony and Jane were established internationals, but out of a spirit of devilment turned down offers from more recognised teams to play with me and Chris Dixon, and Maurice Esterson and David Edwin. At the semi-final stage we were the outsiders, as we had to beat the leading team of the day, containing Reese, Flint and Cansino, to progress to the final. Anyway, we scraped through, and won the final against the number two seeds, a Scots team which was also rated favourite to beat us.

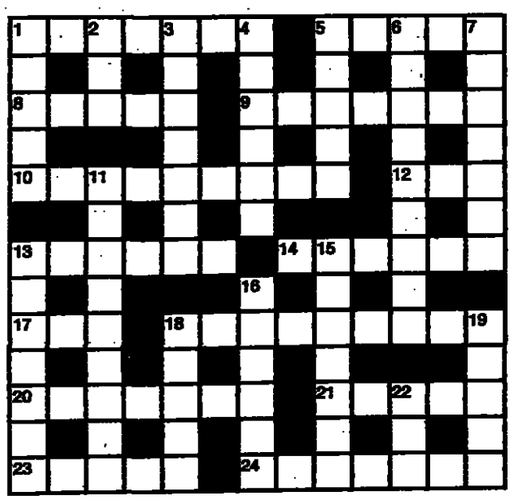
The point of the story is that this was exactly what Jane and Tony had been hoping for when they agreed to play with us — a chance to put two fingers up to the bridge establishment. I remember a very happy journey home in the early hours of the morning, with a lot of chortling and gloating, Tony driving and Jane and I drinking the best part of a bottle of whisky (unfortunately, not The Macallan) between us.

Jane had a well-tuned black *sense of humour. At the wake after* her funeral someone gave me a bridge hand, which he scribbled on the back of the hymn sheet — she would have liked that.

THE MACALLAN PAIRS

THE Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1 on January 25, 26 and 27. For tickets, contact the English Bridge Union, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 3BG (0296 394414).

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 329

ACROSS
7 Elegant subtlety (7)
5 Warm, close (5)
8 Heading (5)
9 Let out (a secret) (7)
10 Foldable canvas seat (4-5)
12 American espionage bureau (1,1,1)
13 Courage; character (6)
14 Showing no emotion, animation (6)
17 Tennis court obstacle (3)
18 Marked by irregular fortunes (9)
20 Wife of King David; (arch.) servant girl (7)
21 Convicted criminal (5)
23 Upright (5)
24 Table-top support (7)

DOWN
1 Doomed (5)
2 Fruit of tree; bolt securer (3)
3 Cut-out for making letters (7)
4 Cause to have friendly feelings (6)
5 Dither (5)
6 Relating to simplest chemical compounds (9)
7 Stubborn conservative (3-4)
11 Risk lateness (3,2,4)
13 Authority derived from election (7)
15 Delicacy found by pigs (7)
16 Fanatic (6)
18 Guile; ship (5)
19 Move to music (5)
22 Ignited (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 328

ACROSS: 6 Pecking order 7 Induce 8 Tablet 9 Bali 10 Tea chest 12 Platonic 16 Rifle 18 Aching 20 Denial 21 Stroke of luck
DOWN: 1 Acquaint 2 Silent 3 Agatha 4 Drab 5 Recess 6 Panda 11 Harangue 13 Locate 14 Nugget 15 Codify 17 Frank 19 Icon

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 £5.25 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. **The Times Jumbo Crosswords** — Book 1 £4.99, Book 2 £5.99. Concise Book 1 £5.99. **The Times Crosswords** — Books 1, 7, 14, 15 & 16 £4.25 each; Books 2 to 13 (excl. 7) £4.74 each. **The Sunday Times Crosswords** — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each except Books 5, 9 and 11 £4.25 each. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Akom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3281: 54 Across Yielded By a 44 Down's Trap So 29 Down, by Columba

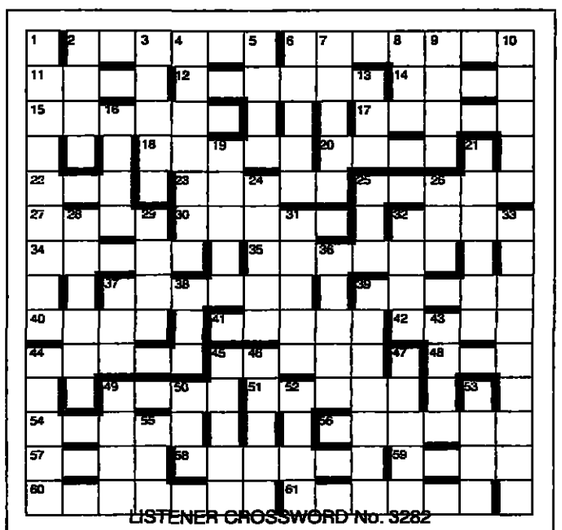
THE answers to a number of clues are to receive similar treatment (one of them being subjected to a double dose) before entry in the diagram. Each of the clues in question contains a definition of its normal answer, a cryptic indication of that answer, and a letter-mixture, beginning at the beginning or ending at the end of a word, of the answer in its treated form — the three parts being in any order, but not overlapping. The treatment required is suggested by the work to which the title is a clue — a work whose own title is given by the first letters of the thematic answers in their treated forms, in clue order. This title should be written below the diagram.

An equivalent number of clues are of the Printer's Devilry type. Their answers all fall under the same jurisdiction within the thematic work.

Other clues are normal. Numbers in brackets invariably refer to the lengths of answers to be entered in the diagram (although indication is made, in two instances, of the number of words in thematic answers prior to treatment).

ACROSS
2. Thatcher's material (gripping chapter) occupies constituents in bar — 'leader's right' creep claims (6)
6 Previous history can testify to stake of French in Canada's change (7)
11. Orcadian goblin retracted promise (4)
12. To master who asks if I want the cane, 'nay!' (6)
14. Delay guessing game (4)
15. The label "prime"? Relocate to 10 (6)
17. Take part after trouble (5)
18. Shallow bay, shelter for one in temporary attack (5)
20. Rider on road needs apple to support him (4)
22. Grass, perverse in utterance (3)
23. Tea one's abandoned to be — by old bear? (5)
25. Samson suffered, say, in Gaza (5)
27. Jock's hoop runs, outwardly sturdy (4)
30. Ring sea-lord about plan involving new flag for merchantmen (5, two words)
32. Weep over onion? (4)
34. Henry put out by wicket spirit in his armies (5)
35. Certain relics of past life, coiled and chambered, are in suites (6)
37. Westward-running river stocked with perch, nicked through biting (it appears) (6)
39. Assent to give up name, caught in one EC cacotopia (5)
40. Church body not once without classic Bible (4)
41. Staid, composed entries of mine (5)
42. Pronounced cinder a black powder (4)
44. Daughter's bems, say, stun without measure antiquated mother (5)
45. Piece of property so far established (5)
48. Retorted in quiz: 'Ulna's a bone' (3)
49. Respected editor stops becoming late one (4)
51. Reaching for the ball, Maradona (God?) scored (5)
54. Element of system turned without end (5)
56. Engineers, following one in lead, building without foundations (6)
57. Is reporter Kate around to stop show of gorgeous birds? (4)
58. *Mother's exhausted from* fever — given time, it can bring down horses (6)
59. Fijian chief thanks backs in fifteen-a-side game (4)
60. Card game ends in great excitement with Queen covered by spade (7)
61. Nap? It involves one shuffled set (6)

DOWN
1. New Church member is wrong about Saint Andrew being at sea and catching nothing (9)
2. Work of 54, English, penned by Brit for Victorians? (4)
3. Build chess organisation up with yen (5)
4. Liquor in ten baths stokes ships full of fuel (7)
5. Nurse in emergencies keeps seeing organs discarded (4)
6. Faces of Alps, rocky, exemplify this edge (5)
7. Isn't aged one month (5)
8. European map changes, built round Germany put into happy state democratically (3)
9. Low carbon raised soot (4)
10. Being unable to reach the desired object — Italian state (5)
13. Grave is, with time, sacked by lover of cruelty (3)
16. Swell liner somehow more excellent — reliable? (4)
19. Leaderless need to embrace a society freed from trouble (5)
21. Scots love the allure o' rivers full o' salmon, and the chars (6)
24. Thunderer's endless day, judged by the clock (5)
25. Mother's restraint (3)
26. Loathe stuck-up North Australian expert (5)
28. Talk over primal faults (6)
29. Dreadful take — fade out (4)
31. Pluto below ascending silver thrones (5)
32. British Queen eschews Australian beer (4)
33. In zoo one sees kookie antelope, fish, ox and goat (9)
36. Spot touch of tremolo in cantata (5)
37. Committing crime, this Nick ... (3)
38. ... so fiendish, male, stormed against one safe haven, God's abode (3, three words)
39. Some say the universe's a red swelling from the Big Bang (7)
43. Look up academician, fine one who's translated 'Ancestor Relics' (4)
44. Constrained by skyward Lord I have revolted (5)
45. Oil in salt (5)
46. Contemporary art's inactive, hollow in the main lines (5)
47. Singles applied to love-god, wanting love (5)
49. Queen in tape blast! (4)
50. Partial to ace Leonardo, I'm impressed by cartoon ... (3)
52. ...when I go 'top art!' and - and stare at the Mona Lisa (4)
53. Toothless order a tater mashed and tcat round end of bottle (4)
55. Effect of strain put on eggs (3)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3282

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

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POSTCODE .....



PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above, to The *Listener* Crossword 3282, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, December 14.

T	E	R	N	B	C	O	N	D	Y	L	E			
A	R	E	O	L	A	R	I	A	T	A	S			
I	N	M	L	A	N	G	U	E	D	O	C			
L	E	E	S	E	T	A	C	H	E	D	H			
D	D	D	L	S	L	N	E	D	I	L	E			
E	M	E	R	G	E	S	T	L	L	D	W			
C	D	S	P	R	T	A	E	N	I	A	E			
A	L	D	E	A	C	N	A	L	C	E	D			
G	Y	E	N	T	A	J	L	I	E	I	N			
R	E	E	N	T	R	A	N	T	N	G	E			
A	D	I	E	U	S	K	U	T	C	H	A			
M	A	R	D	I	E	S	S	F	E	T	T			

Solution to No 3278. Bess by BeRo

Theme: Alfred Noyes, English poet (That landlord's black-eyed daughter, (Bess) ... (from *The Highwayman*) Approximate synonyms of "noyes." (Spenser's noise)

Code
LANDLORDSBLACKEYEDDAUGHTER
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

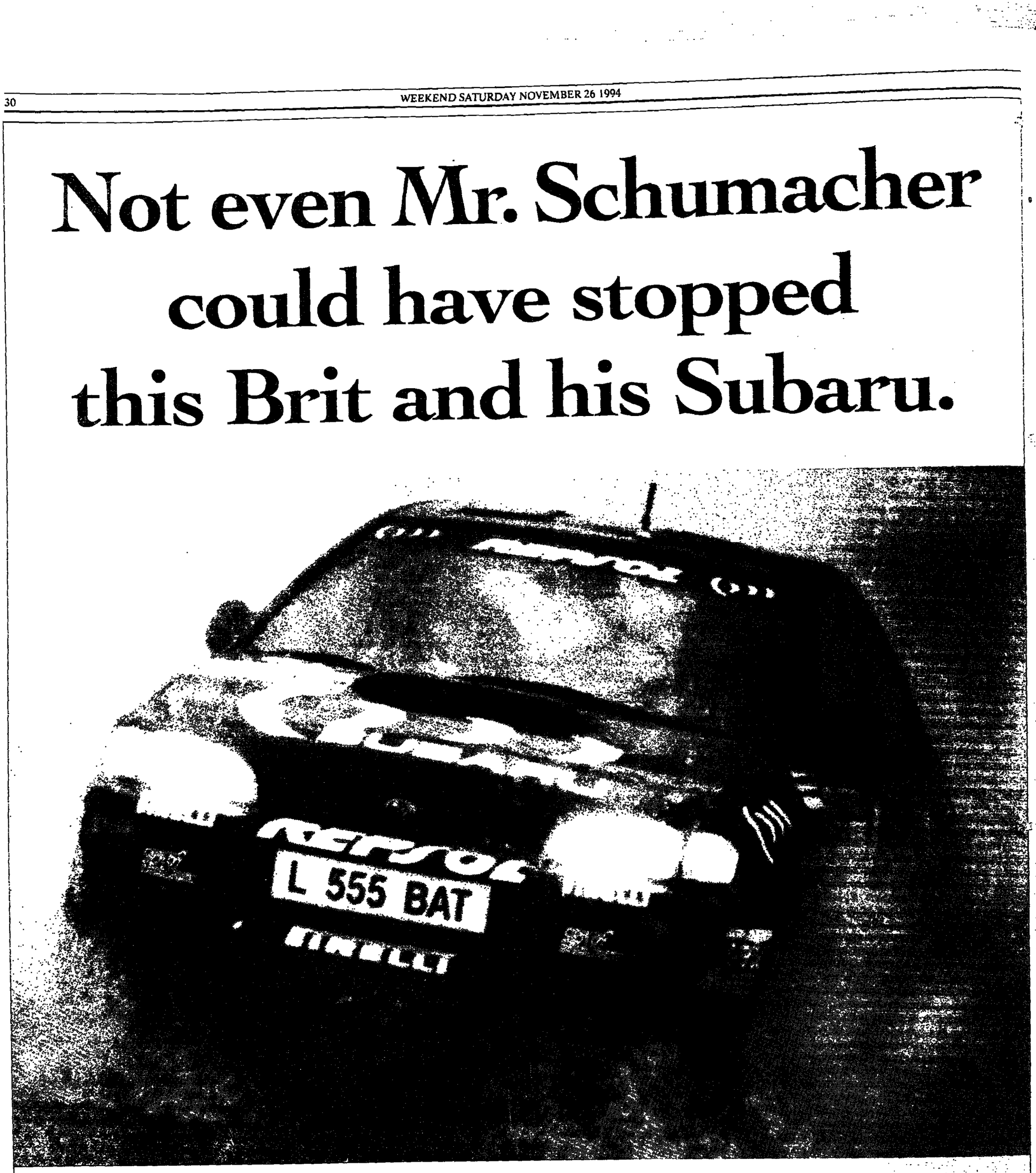
Answers to questions: Is (YES) term: 1d Tail (YES); 6d Orgs (NO) tu; 15d Ce (NO) te; 19d Grn (YES) t; 23d Pen (NO) ned; 26d Car (NO) ss; 29d E (YES) ight. Answers can be put together to form NOYES (4 times). The answers, although correct, do not, of course, provide sufficient information in themselves.

Coded entries: Solution/Anagram (Noyes=noise)/Coded entry:
Ida Shrike/Shreik/DDDLSL; 27a Colmar/-Clamor/NALCED; 7d Towser/-Stowre/DAEHDL; 23d Porter/Reporu-DLYEDA

Solution/Anagram connection (Forename)/-Coded entry: 3d Fardel/Alfred/LAODLD

The winner was J.S. Marshall, of Le Patourel Close, Christchurch, Dorset. The runners-up were B. Midgley, of Wellington College, Crowthorne, Berkshire, and J.N. Whipp, of Westbrook End, Newton Longville, Buckinghamshire.

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